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THE TIMES

Bernard Levin: The good news from China, page 14

One million people made jobless in past 12 months

One million Britons lost their jobs in the year to mid-March, the first such rise in any year since the war. The jobless total reached a seasonally-adjusted 2.38 million in March, or 9.9 per cent of the workforce. The TUC announced plans for a Liverpool to London protest walk, reminiscent of the Jarrow march of the 1930s.

TUC plans Jarrow-style march

By David Blake
Economics Editor

More than a million people were added to the unemployment queues in the year to mid-March, the first such rise in any 12-month period since the war. Although the figures show some signs that the rate of increase is slowing down, there was a storm of protest from trade unions and the Opposition.

The Trades Union Congress is to sponsor a month-long march from Liverpool to London during May, aimed at highlighting the plight of the unemployed. Five hundred people are to be sponsored in the protest which is aimed at evoking memories of the Jarrow march of the 1930s.

Adult Unemployment went up by nearly 77,000 in March, pushing *the total to 2.38 million* or 9.9 per cent of the workforce after seasonal adjustment. The increase is roughly the same as that recorded in February.

Favourable seasonal factors and school leavers getting jobs meant that the total number of people registered as being out of work went up by only 21,000 in the month to mid-March, to give an overall total of 2,484,712, or 10.3 per cent of all workers.

There are now roughly 10 unemployed people for every vacant job in the country.

No part of the country has escaped the rising toll of factory closures and lay offs, but the worst hit area has been the West Midlands, tradition*ally the heartland of British* industry. Over the past year, unemployment has doubled to 11.6 per cent, a reflection of the fact that manufacturing has borne the brunt of the recession.

Of the 11 regions into which the United Kingdom is divided, seven have unemployment rates in double figures. The worst are Northern Ireland, with 16.4 per cent of the total workforce unemployed, and Wales and the North of England, where unem*ployment is 12.9 per cent.*

The unemployment rate among men is much higher. *Just over one man in five in* Northern Ireland has no job, and the unemployment rate for men in the North of England is 15.5 per cent.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said that the rise in unemployment was the result of the "ruinous folly" of the Government's policies. In the House of Commons, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said the Government was "deeply concerned" by the level of unemployment and defended plans that unemployed young people should be offered the chance of military training.

He was attacked fiercely by Labour MPs. Mr Eric Varley, Opposition employment spokesman, said that government policy was in ruins.

Government hopes rest on the fact that latest figures confirm recent signs that the number of unemployed is growing less quickly than it was during the depths of the winter, when an extra 100,000 a month were joining the dole queues.

But although things are not getting worse quite as quickly *as they were, the unemployment* prospects still look bleak for the year ahead. The latest figures suggest that unemployment is well on course to go above three million during *1982 if schoolleavers are* included. Few economists expect the number to drop below 2.5 *million before 1984*, and most independent forecasters expect it to stay above three million, possibly even rising steadily, until 1985. But reports of a Treasury forecast of 3.7 million unemployed have been *firmly* denied.

Long-term prospects are made worse by the fact that recorded unemployment figures do not show in full the extent of the jobs crisis which has hit the British economy *in recent years.* A total of 1.2 million people are now covered by special government measures designed to hold down the level of unemployment, most of them on special short-time working *schemes.*

Without these measures, the Government estimates that the number of unemployed would have been about 370,000 higher. Other workers have dropped off the register altogether, in despair about their prospects of obtaining a job.

Taken together, these two factors will make it much harder to convert any improvement in the labour market into lower unemployment figures. But yesterday's figures show that such an improvement is in any case a long way off.

The seasonally adjusted number of vacancies fell fractionally for the second successive month, cancelling out tentative signs of improvement recorded in January. The number of *notified vacancies, which pro*vides a good guide to the labour market, halved over the last 12 months.

'Once and for all' effort on EEC fish

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 24

EEC heads of government today called on their agriculture and fisheries ministers to hold a special meeting in Brussels on Friday in an attempt to resolve the Community's six-year-old dispute over fishing policy "once and for all".

Announcing this after the EEC's spring summit meeting, Mr Andries van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister, who chaired the discussions, declared that there was "a clear political will to establish a common fisheries policy".

The other EEC leaders, including Mrs Margaret Thatcher, agreed that the will was there, but they were unable to offer any concrete evidence that the chances of reaching agreement on Friday will be any better than on previous occasions.

Speaking before flying home after the two-day summit in the town hall here, Mrs Thatcher said she was "not thinking in terms of compromise". Asked about reports of heated exchanges between herself and *Herr Helmut Schmidt, the* West German Chancellor, the Prime Minister replied bluntly: "I do not respond to pressure".

The fisheries issue came up over dinner last night, and again *during* this morning's discussions. The atmosphere was said at times to have been as tense as at Dublin in the autumn of 1979 when Mrs Thatcher came close to an open breach with her EEC partners over Britain's contributions to the Community budget.

Herr Schmidt is enraged because the lack of agreement on a new fisheries policy is holding up a separate accord between the EEC and Canada which would allow West Germany's deep sea fleet into rich cod *fishing grounds off Newfound*land and Labrador.

Britain refuses to ratify the Canada deal because it would cut tariffs on supplies of Canadian frozen fish to the Community and allegedly threaten the livelihood of British fishermen, who are already hard pressed by competition from low-priced imports.

A new common fisheries policy would offer better protection against cheap imports.

Continued on page 5, col 2



Dr Martin Sweeting (right) and Mr Ian Ferebee of Surrey University at work on the Uosat satellite.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

UK satellite hitch-hikes to the galaxy

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

While the mighty technological resources of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) are being focused on the forthcoming maiden flight of the space shuttle, a more modest piece of space technology is coming together at the University of Surrey at Guildford.

This is Uosat, a satellite being built to benefit schoolchildren, among others, and which will hitch-hike into orbit on the back of a Nasa Solar Explorer spacecraft.

Uosat is also intended for use by radio enthusiasts as well as serious space scientists.

With a little help from their friends in industry and elsewhere, Surrey's electronics and electrical engineers are building the "shoestring" satellite at an estimated cost of about £100,000.

This is a ridiculously low figure for a scientific satellite of its size. Dr Martin Sweeting, Uosat project manager, said yesterday that for comparison, UK-6, a British scientific satellite of about the same size and complexity, had cost £9m to develop and build.

The university began to develop the craft two years ago with the deliberate aim of seeing what could be achieved on limited resources. "We adopted a common-sense approach to see what we could get away with," Dr Sweeting said.

One thing they got away with was not paying the £15,000 quoted by an aerospace supplier for the metal honeycomb side-panels for the satellite. A small Stevenage company, which normally supplies such panels for underground train doors and racing cars, did the job for £300. "*Not that we go shopping* for bits in Woolworths", Dr Sweeting said.

The American's Explorer launch, originally planned for mid-September, may be brought forward to July because the Nasa end of the project is well advanced. This means that life is very busy at Guildford and elsewhere for the four-man Uosat team and a supporting group of about 20 part-timers.

The satellite will cater for all tastes. It will carry experiments concerned with the ionosphere and radio propagation, which will keep the scientists happy, or at least busy. Also, it will carry a video camera to take pictures of the earth—and a talking computer to say what the readings of the instruments are—which should make science projects in schools rather more interesting *than some have* been in the past.

The project has the seal of approval of Amsat (the Amateur Satellite Corporation) which has coordinated work on the earlier series of Oscar satellites for amateur radio use.

Industry sponsors include British Aerospace, British Telecom, Ferranti, MEL and Racal.

Ronald Biggs will fight extradition to Britain

By Craig Seton

Mr Ronald Biggs, the fugitive Great Train robber, who is in a police cell in Bridgetown, Barbados, after a bizarre "kidnap" in Brazil, said last night that he will fight any move to return him to Britain.

Five Britons, said to be former soldiers, are reported to have organized the elaborate abduction of Mr Biggs, aged 51, from a Rio de Janeiro restaurant last week and to have flown him to a Brazilian port where he was smuggled on board a yacht bound for Barbados.

Last night friends of Mr Biggs in Rio said that Mr David Neufeld, an American lawyer, had been appointed to represent him against extradition attempts.

The mysterious *circumstances surrounding Mr Biggs's arrival* in Barbados after a week at sea, and the motive for the [illegible] took a new turn last night with a report that an heir to a fortune in Britain had helped to finance the operation. Mr Biggs, who escaped from Wandsworth prison in 1965 after serving less than two years of a 30-year sentence, was at first reported to be willing to return to Britain when he was taken off the Nowcani II, an Antiguan registered schooner, by the islands' immigration officials on Monday night.

Last night he was said to have told police that he wanted to return to Brazil, where he has a son, Michael, aged six.

The fingerprints of the man *held in Barbados are being sent* to Scotland Yard for comparison with those of Mr Biggs's prints.

The Director of Public Prosecutions has also sent for the police file on Mr Biggs and *is ready to apply under the* Fugitive Offenders Act, 1967, to have him brought back

Mr Biggs told police that he had been kidnapped when immigration officials "rescued" him from the *Nowcani* II, which had apparently broken down off the coast of Barbados. But the men involved in the episode, some of whom had travelled with Mr Biggs from Brazil, claimed there had been a "citizen's arrest".

Partners in a north London security firm, Single Point Security, were said yesterday to have been behind the enterprise. Mr Gerry Brown, a *freelance journalist who said he* was taken on as a press-liaison man, said the kidnap had been masterminded by Mr Fred Prime, a Londoner and a Mr John Miller, also known as John McKillop, both former Scots Guards.

Mr Miller, aged 36, was married in Bridgetown at the time the Nowcani II arrived off *Barbados.*

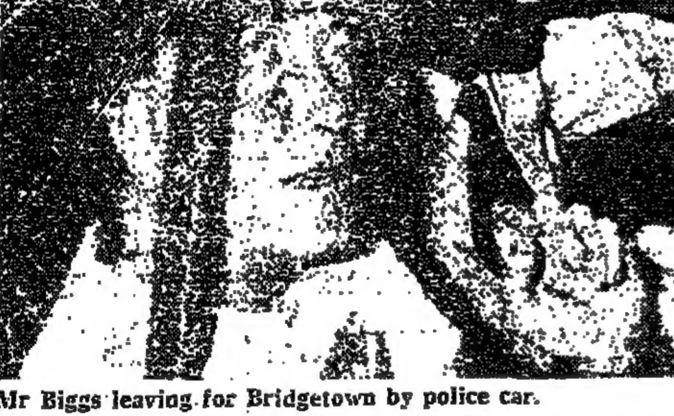
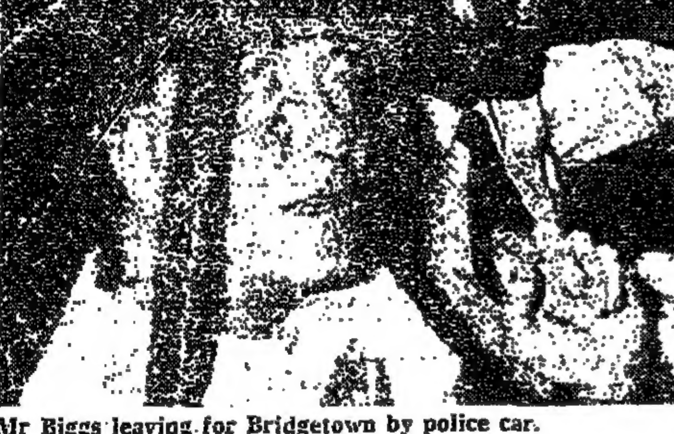
A third member of their team is said to be a Mr Patrick King, another former soldier, who runs a taxi company in north London.

As in the past, the case surrounding Mr Biggs has turned into a can of worms. Money is the obvious motive for his "abduction" and a London agent, apparently representing the "snatch" squad, has offered national newspapers the full story. A price up to £500,000 has been mentioned.

Mr Jack Slipper, who then as a detective chief superintendent failed to bring Mr Biggs back to Britain, said yesterday *that he was disappointed for* the fugitive. "I would like to to have seen him come back to Britain under his own steam."

Five named: Barbados police last night named the five men on the yacht with Mr Biggs as: Mr Thorfin McLeod Maciver, aged 25, of Edinburgh, the skipper; Mr Gregory David Nelson, aged 19, of North Carolina, USA; Mr Anthony James Marriaga, aged 26, of London; Mr Frederick Charles Prime, aged 42; and Mr Mark St John Halgate, aged 22, of Plymouth.

Fugitive in headlines, page 4

Mr Biggs leaving for Bridgetown by police car.

It would hardly be worth BIGGS' while to steal a mere £2.5 millions today...

BL official injured in Dublin shooting

From Our Correspondent
Dublin

A republican gang shot and injured a senior British Leyland official yesterday while he was lecturing on industrial relations in Trinity College, in the centre of Dublin.

Before they fired at Mr Geoffrey Armstrong, aged 35, director of employee relations and services at BL Cars in Coventry, the terrorists shouted: "This action is in support of H-block. Everybody freeze." Mr Armstrong staggered and fell to the ground in front of about 60 people. He was detained in the Meath Hospital with leg wounds, and his condition was described later as comfortable.

The shooting occurred at 2.20 pm. Witnesses said that three men burst in at the back of the lecture theatre. They were wearing combat jackets and balaclava helmets, and at least two had revolvers. Many in the audience flung themselves to the ground as three shots were fired.

Gardai sealed off the college and late yesterday evening they were still questioning each person as they left.

There were hundreds of students, lecturers, and Dubliners on the campus at the time.

The Dublin office of the National H-Blocks and Armagh Committee, which has campaigned for political status for republican prisoners in the Maze and Armagh jails in Northern Ireland, denied any involvement. The Irish Republican Publicity Bureau denied that the IRA was involved.

Mr Armstrong, a member of the British Institute of Management, was in Dublin at the invitation of the Dublin Junior Chamber. He lives in Coventry and is married with three children.

Mr Gerry Collins, the Minister for Justice, said the shooting met with the overwhelming condemnation of the Irish people.

Crucial role: Mr Armstrong has a key role at BL Cars (Our Midlands Industrial Correspondent writes). Since his appointment two years ago he has led the company's industrial relations team with outstanding success through some of the most critical and long running union-management negotiations in the company's history.

Tories suggest inquiry into secret services

By Peter Hennessy
and Stewart Tendler

An inquiry into Britain's security and intelligence services has been suggested to the Government by Conservative backbenchers after allegations this week that a former head of MI5 was investigated as a possible Soviet agent. Ministers will come under pressure to hold a debate after the Prime Minister's statement in the Commons tomorrow.

The Conservative backbench committee on home affairs has suggested to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, that in view of the suspicion that Sir Roger Hollis, Director-General of MI5, from 1956 to 1965, could have spied for Russia, Mrs Margaret Thatcher should commission a high-level inquiry into the penetration of MI5 and MI6, by the KGB, since the onset of the cold war in the 1940s.

The MPs believe that the present performance and security arrangements of the clandestine services should be included in the inquiry's terms of reference and that it should establish the level of past and present penetration of their ranks.

After a private debate at Westminster on Monday, in which a number of choices were canvassed, a majority favoured the appointment of a group of no more than three distinguished outsiders: possibly including a former prime minister, a high court judge and a retired member of the Chiefs of Staff Committee.

The committee felt strongly that the inquiry should be exhaustive, enjoying access to all the files, that its report should be published and, after a debate in the Commons, acted upon.

It became clear yesterday that an inquiry would be welcomed by present and past members of the public service familiar with MI5 and MI6.

As one senior figure put it: "It is important not to destroy total confidence in them. That is what this game might be all about. We do need the Security Service. There is a great danger of subversion from outside and it is only too easy, when something has gone wrong, to lose all confidence in it and destroy morale inside."

Inside MI5, how Blunt won time and Pincher text, page 9

Sir Claude Auchinleck dies in Morocco

Marrakesh, Morocco, March 24.—Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, one of the last surviving Supreme Commanders of the British armed forces in the Second World War died on Monday aged 96, British embassy sources said today.

Field Marshal Auchinleck, who had lived in Marrakesh since 1967, was said to have died in his sleep.

He was commander-in-chief *in the Middle East in 1941-42* leading the British forces against Germany's desert commander, Erwin Rommel—Reuter.

Queen's tribute: In a personal message of condolence to Field Marshal Auchinleck's cousin, Lieutenant-Colonel Clive Auchinleck, the Queen said: "His brave and unstinted service to his country in war and peace will always be remembered." (the Press Association reports).

Obituary, page 16

Polish Council of State calls for crisis session

By Our Foreign Staff

The Polish Council of State is to convene a special *session of* Parliament on Monday because of the gravity of the crisis facing the country, state television reported yesterday.

Leaders of the independent trade union movement, Solidarity, yesterday proclaimed a four-hour national strike on Friday and an indefinite general strike next Tuesday; *but after a clash* between moderates and militants they left the door open for last-minute peace talks.

Faced with the threatened resignation of Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, the union's national consultative commission accepted his compromise proposal to declare a warning stoppage rather than go immediately for an *all-out* general strike

The commission, in an angry mood and seeking a big protest against alleged police assault on its members in Bydgoszcz last Thursday, had tried to overrule Mr Walesa during a turbulent all-night session.

But last night, the state television said the chairman of the Bydgoszcz Provincial *Assembly* had announced his intention to resign.

Solidarity has said it wants the resignations of a *provincial* deputy governor, police officials and a deputy prime minister who was present when police were called to the assembly.

Mr Walesa warned his union colleagues that the declaration of an immediate general strike would dash the last hope of reaching a settlement with the authorities and he stayed away from the commission meeting when it resumed yesterday.

He returned to preside over the meeting only after the commission had accepted his proposal which hinged on the resumption of talks *with the* Government today.

It was immediately reported by the official news agency PAP which said there was an atmosphere of tension and anxiety in the country.

The crisis coincides with continued Warsaw Pact manoeuvres in and around Poland, heightening concern about possible Soviet military intervention

Units of Polish, Soviet, Czechoslovak and East German armed forces are taking part in the exercises which are expected to end late this week.

Food rationing has been ordered by the authorities in the Gdansk region because of an acute shortage of bread, potatoes, and other foodstuffs, Polish television reported today. It said that "enormous queues" formed today outside food shops in the Gdansk, Sopot and Gdynia urban area.

EEC aid, page 5

Four BL unions on strike at Metro plant

Four white collar unions made official a two-day strike by their members at BL's Longbridge plant intended to stop production of the mini Metro. The men are angry at the imposition of redundancies after an insufficient number of workers volunteered to leave. They claim that some men with long service were given *only half an hour's notice* Page 2

Foot-and-mouth clash

Farmers and auctioneers clashed over livestock markets being held near the area declared by the Government to be in immediate danger from foot-and-mouth disease. The National Farmers' Union called for a ban on such markets, but an auctioneer in the area said they had to only half an hour's notice Page 2

Spanish king's demand

King Juan Carlos told senior Spanish Army, Navy and Air Force officers in Madrid that increasing terrorist violence made it necessary: "to act with decisiveness, passing from a posture of patient defence to an energetic offensive". But he also set clear limits to the growing *influence* of the armed forces on the country's civilian government Page 6

QC as mediator in auction dispute

Mr Patrick Neill, QC, Warden of All Souls College, Oxford, is mediating in the *dispute between art dealers and auctioneers* over the auctioneers' 10 per cent buyers' premium. He is seeking a compromise before a case is heard in the High Court in the autumn Page 4

Ulster powers move

A new attempt to restore devolved powers to Northern Ireland is to be made by the Government. Central to the new move will be the protection of Roman Catholics against discrimination. Outright majority rule will not be an option and there are no plans to hand back powers to the 26 district councils Page 4

Dali painting in jail

A painting of the Crucifixion by Salvador Dali has been discovered hanging in the dining room of a New York prison. The artist donated the work to the Rikers Island jail in 1965. It has now been authenticated and valued at £45,000 Page 6

Metro car men strike over redundancies

From Clifford Webb
Birmingham

Four unions gave official status last night to strike action by white-collar staff at BL's Longbridge plant intended to stop production of the mini Metro.

A meeting attended by about half of the plant's 4,500 staff voted yesterday for an immediate two-day strike followed by a campaign of unannounced action over plans to cut 4,250 white-collar jobs throughout BL.

Mr Duncan Lapish, a national secretary of the Association of Professional Executives, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex), said: "My members at Longbridge insist this will stop production. There will be no supply of parts to the line, no progress chasers, and no supervision." The other unions involved are the ASTMS, TASS and ACTSS.

The strike comes after months of skirmishing between unions and management about the job cuts. It was at first hoped that sufficient voluntary leavers would come forward to avoid compulsory redundancies. The company twice extended the voluntary period, but is still 500 jobs short, 120 of them at Longbridge.

The unions claim that BL lost patience and gave some long-serving men half an hour's notice to leave last week. On Saturday, Apex gave an ultimatum to the company to "stop such heartless action until all existing vacancies have been filled or face an official strike".

Mr William Linthwaite, chairman of BL Cars' national negotiating committee for clerical and commercial staffs, said last night: "There is no soul left in a company which gives men of 35 to 43 years' service half an hour to get off the premises.

One man in the design department had a heart attack and died when he was told to go.

"Another man of 58 with 43 years' service, ever since he left school, was also taken ill and collapsed."

BL Cars said: "Everyone made redundant has known for several weeks that they were on a list of possible leavers. Most of them have also been interviewed for other jobs both inside and outside BL. I can categorically deny that anyone has had redundancy sprung on him at half an hour's notice.

"We shall be open for work as normal tomorrow and fully expect to maintain production."

There appeared to be little support for the action among manual workers leaving the plant last night. Most take the view that it is time white-collar workers shoulder their share of the redundancies in BL.

Canvey terminal closure inquiry

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Government is to investigate whether the British Gas methane terminal at Canvey Island, Essex, should be closed for safety reasons.

British Gas last night described any suggestion that the terminal should be shut as astonishing. It had a proven safety record for two decades, and there was no reason for people to live in fear.

Concern about the possibility of a serious accident was expressed in a report published yesterday of a public inquiry into whether outline permission for a new oil refinery on the island should be revoked.

General Sir Richard Ward, the inquiry inspector, concluded that the proposed refinery would not constitute an unacceptable risk. But he said that the methane terminal contributed no less than a third of the total risk of a serious accident from all the present and proposed installations.

Unusual though it is for an inspector to depart from the strict terms of his remit, Sir Richard evidently felt that the safety question had to be seen in a wider context. The heavy concentration of oil, gas, chemical and harbour installations in a small area, with limited access and escape routes, has been a source of controversy for many years.

The announcement by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, that an inquiry was to be held was greeted by Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex, South-East, as "a great victory". He added: "At last sanity has broken through".

Sir Bernard has been at the forefront of public protests which began in the early 1970s. Mass demonstrations preceded a public inquiry in 1975 into whether consent for United Refineries to build the oil refinery should be revoked.

The inquiry was suspended to allow the Health and Safety Executive to study the safety aspects. The executive acknowledged a number of potential risks but concluded, to local consternation, that they were not great enough to justify revocation.

It was on the resumed inquiry that Sir Richard reported yesterday. On the strength of that, Mr Heseltine stated that he would defer a decision

Sir Richard observed that one possible incident could be the release of a large cloud of methane gas which, if not ignited, could spread for 10 kilometres before dispersing.

He suggested that the risk to the local population could be almost removed if an ignition point to explode the drifting gas was set up on the terminal's perimeter.

"It is surely better to risk the lives of a comparatively small workforce, who themselves benefit from being there, rather than others who benefit less and have in addition to contend with the daily risks.

"Such a decision would have the undoubted benefit of concentrating the minds of managers and employees on the importance of safety.

"If that is considered too dangerous, the only alternative is to close the terminal down and move it elsewhere", he added.

The corporation said last night that it would resist strongly any attempt to close the terminal.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Sales ban on livestock sought in disease alert

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

A dispute started between farmers and auctioneers yesterday about livestock markets being held near the area declared by the Government to be in immediate danger from foot-and-mouth disease.

The National Farmers' Union called for such markets to be cancelled during the disease alert. The organizers of a market at Chichester, West Sussex, said that it would be held today as planned.

Mr Patrick Tory, chairman of the central southern branch of the NFU, said: "There was a market at Winchester yesterday, which we thought was very irresponsible."

His branch covers Surrey and West Sussex. Winchester is rather more than a mile to the north of the Government's restricted area, and Chichester is 20 miles to the east.

"The branch strongly implores farmers to stay away from livestock markets", Mr Tory said, and added that he would write to market organizers appealing for cancellations.

Mr John Willis, the Chichester auctioneer, said that it was irresponsible to try to have the market closed. Many farmers had telephoned to him for reassurance that today's sale would be held.

"If there was an outbreak on the mainland within 20 miles of us, I would close the market", Mr Willis said. "We try to provide a service. We have to provide beef each week for a catchment area going out to 75 miles."

The Minor Football League at Aberystwyth cancelled an invitation to 100 children from St Brieuc, Brittany, with which the Welsh town is twinned. St Brieuc is less than twenty miles away from the centre of some of the latest foot-and-mouth cases in France.

Valley of the pigs, page 5

As the Gang of Four get set for tomorrow's launching, the new party feels the heat of battle

Voluntary helpers stand by for big day

By Ian Bradley

You meet a nice class of person when you call at the offices of the Council for Social Democracy in Queen Anne's Gate, London.

The receptionist is Mr Michael Starkey, a former private secretary in the Foreign Office and bursar of Harrow School, who wrote to Mrs Shirley Williams offering his help, in however menial a capacity.

Morning coffee is likely to be served by Mr Richard Crawshaw, MP for Liverpool, Toxteth, and formerly a Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, who devotes two hours every day to helping in the council's headquarters.

Other helpers include Mr Ian Wright, president of the Cambridge University Students' Union, and Mrs Ruth Levy, a freelance designer and tourist guide, who was converted to social democracy by Mr Roy Jenkinss Dimbleby Lecture. She organizes the volunteers who are enthusiastically preparing for the launching of the social democratic party tomorrow.

Yesterday morning 27 of them were engaged in sorting the letters, which were still arriving at the rate of a thousand a day, counting cheques, which have yielded about £80,000, and bundling leaflets for the regional press conferences that will follow the launching in London.

The volunteers come from various backgrounds. The youngest there yesterday was Dominic Lees, aged 16, a pupil at Bedales School, who became a social democrat after hearing a lecture by Dr David Owen.

The oldest was Mr Arthur Pulham, aged 71, a retired printer with the Stationery Office, who has left the Labour Party after 40 years because of "the control that party caucuses are now imposing on MPs".

Although an understandable air of mild chaos pervades the offices, the launching is likely to be accomplished with impressive technological smoothness. Tomorrow morning more than 26,000 people who have written to the council will receive letters inviting them to join the party. They are being sent by computer.

From 9 am tomorrow until 9 pm on Monday volunteers will be manning telephones in London and at 20 regional centres.

Offers of help have been sorted into geographical areas and will be passed to those responsible for setting up the party's local structure. Mrs Celia Goodhart, who has been coordinating the offers, says they range from "those who feel they should be Prime Minister before the end of the year to old age pensioners who say they could address envelopes at home".

So far the Social Democrars have only two full-time staff, Mr Alec McGivan, the secretary, and Mr John Lyttle, the press officer, supported by three secretaries, a switchboard operator hired from an agency and six temporary typists.

Otherwise the party is dependent on volunteers, of whom there appears to be no shortage. Nearly 300 will man the telephones during the launching period in London alone.

Voting pattern: The new party would adhere to the principle of one man, one vote in electing its leader, Mr Dick Taverne, the former MP for Lincoln said yesterday.

Mr Taverne, who is a member of the steering committee of the Council for Social Democracy, told a meeting at the North London Polytechnic that the party could have both a national leader elected by members and a parliamentary leader. He hoped the party would raise £1m this year and that members would subscribe £9 or more a year.

Diary, page 14
Biggest gamble, page 14



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave
Mr Alec McGivan, the council's secretary, in his office

Political defections cause chaos as the Tories relinquish borough control

By Robin Young

The political chaos which some believe would result from the realignment of British politics has gripped the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The borough's minority Conservative administration resigned on Monday after losing the vote on the rates for the coming year.

Councillors in the borough are inured to council meetings lasting until four or five in the morning, and committee sessions which continue until midnight. Most council members have lost count of the number of extraordinary council meetings held this year, at an estimated cost of £1,000 each. It is variously put at five or six.

With the defection of one Conservative, the chairman of the leisure committee, to the social democrats, and the expulsion from the Conservative group of Mr Richard Lazarus, housing committee chairman, who also deserted on the rate vote, the Conservatives are no longer the largest group in the council.

On the other hand Labour, which holds that position today, expects to lose it tomorrow when the social democrat party is launched. Two Labour councillors are expected to announce their adherence to the new party.

In May, 1978 the Hammersmith and Fulham electorate returned a council with 24 seats each for Conservatives and Labour, and two for the Liberals. Until 1980 the borough was governed by a Conservative-Liberal coalition.

That broke up after the Liberals succeeded in forcing the postponement of a second instalment of council rent rises from October last year until January. Against the wishes of leader, the senior Liberal was Mr Kim Howe, the Conservative voted off the social services committee, of which he had been chairman.

Meanwhile, Mrs Ernie Cr[awford], a Labour councillor, [who] left her party and become independent. For a time [she] took the Conservative whip, [in] return for which she was [elec]ted to become vice-chairman [of] the social services committee, [a] position she still holds.

Unalloyed political turmoil [in] the borough set in on Janu[ary] 28 when Mrs Crawford [was] pushed over at a bus st[op], injured her leg, and failed [to] reach the council meeting. [The] Conservative resolutions [at] that meeting were lost and [a] series of Labour moti[ons] carried.

The Conservatives saw th[eir] programmes for selling cou[ncil] homes and commercial la[nd] lost, and their plan for [the] redevelopment of Fulham to[wn] centre abandoned. The coun[cil] also insisted on reopening so[me] public lavatories it had close[d].

In a series of extraordina[ry] meetings the Conservati[ves] have tried and failed to reco[ver] that lost ground.

The final blow fell last we[ek] when a Conservative propo[sal] for next year's rate was l[ost] in spite of the promise [of] Liberal support. The Conser[va]tive-Liberal package propos[ed] cuts of £6m in expenditure, a[nd] a 48.3 per cent rate increase.

The Labour package, whi[ch] was carried instead, limits [the] cuts to £4.5m and makes [the] borough's increase in rates, 53.9 per cent, the second hig[h]est in the country. Rates [for] the average householder in [the] borough will rise from £4.30 [a] week to £6.60.

On the crucial votes [Mrs] Crawford voted with Labo[ur] as did Mr Killick. Mr Lazar[us], who insists he will continue [to] support the Conservatives, [ab]stained on one vote and su[p]ported Labour on the oth[er] as did the second Liberal co[un]cillor.

The Conservative leader, [Mr] Howe, now says the ball is [in] Labour's court. He says Labo[ur] lacks the political will to li[ve] within the rate it has set.

Mr Anthony Powell, [the] Labour leader, met his cou[n]cillors last night, still hopi[ng] that it might be possible [to] head off the expected defe[c]tions.

"I understand that I ha[ve] ceased to be leader of t[he] opposition and am for t[he] moment leader of the large[st] group, a position I may lo[se] again on Thursday", he sa[id].

The Conservatives, who sti[ll] have a numerical majority [on] the committees, most of whic[h] will have to elect new chairme[n] at their next meetings, ma[y] even insist on electing the Labour opponents to the vaca[nt] chairs "to make them tak[e] responsibility".

Mr Knott, the Liberal leade[r], perhaps sensibly has departe[d] on a two-week cruise.

The long-suffering counc[il] officers say: "Everything [in] the borough will continue [as] normal. The only thing that [has] been lost is political contro[l]".

Social Democrats survive attack

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

The Social Democrats yesterday survived an attempt to add them to the roll of the famous and the infamous, including felons, lunatics, peers and members of the Permanent Joint Hops Committee, who are disqualified from membership of the House of Commons.

An ingenious little Bill, introduced under the 10-minute rule procedure by Mr Dennis Canavan, a fiery and bearded Scot representing Stirlingshire West, suggested that disqualification should be extended to any person who resigned his membership of a party after having described himself at the time of his election to the Commons as a candidate for that party.

The Bill was defeated by 166 votes to 142.

The Social Democrats, standing rather pompously on their high principles, refrained from voting on their own behalf because, in the words of Dr David Owen, one of the joint leaders, they thought it might be construed that they had a personal interest in the matter.

Mr Canavan, of course, had no such scruples. He began by describing himself as a moderate, a label by which few in Stirlingshire West, or for that matter in the Commons, would have recognized him.

But for all Mr Canavan's moderation he is not a man who could ever be described as a wet, and he was soon ripping into the Social Democrats with much gusto.

Defectors, turncoats and traitors, he called them. They were enemies of democracy, and his guess was that at any by-election they would be thrown out on their necks. Even Mr Dick Taverne, Mr Canavan added, at least had the decency to resubmit himself to the people of Lincoln.

His Bill would do a public service and all those interested in parliamentary democracy should support it. As for Mr Roy Jenkins, he was dismissed by Mr Canavan as an enemy of parliamentary democracy.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, Social Democrat MP for Teesside, Thornaby, made clear that he and his friends had no intention of testing the electoral waters at this stage. The Bill was a fundamental attack on the principles of representative parliamentary democracy.

The House should uphold the established view that only constituents had the rights to remove MPs.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Mr Dickens questioned by the Yard

Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Conservative MP for Huddersfield West, said yesterday that he was questioned for 45 minutes by senior Scotland Yard officers about the source of the information which led him to name Sir Peter Hayman, the former diplomat, in the Commons in connexion with the child pornography affair.

Throughout the interview, in an office at the Commons, he had refused to name his source.

He said the officers were Commander Anthony Lampard and Detective Superintendent Lionel Stapley, of the complaints Investigation Bureau. They told him they were acting under instructions from the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who had received a letter from Sir Thomas Hetherington, Director of Public Prosecutions.

"They were seeking guidance whether it was a journalist, a policeman or a printer

"It creates a very dangerous precedent that MPs who use the protection of Parliamentary privilege to do what they consider to be their duty ever come under police investigation

Heffer view of Labour's Europe goal

By Our Political Staff

Labour's policy for pulling out of the European Economic Community was complicated and would become increasingly so the longer the United Kingdom remained a member, Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton and a member of the party executive, told a meeting of the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House yesterday.

He said it was essential that Europe and the EEC should not be confused. Labour was often accused of being anti-European, but it was anti-EEC.

The Labour Party conference last year had voted overwhelmingly that Britain should leave the EEC, but it had not said that that could be done in 24 hours.

The party national executive had set up a working group to study carefully the full implications of a withdrawal, "a study which includes the alternatives which will need to be pursued in the event of Britain's leaving".

Labour's aim for Europe as a whole, Mr Heffer said, should be withdrawal from the EEC because of its basic capitalist-free-enterprise, competitive orientation, and the establishment of a wider but looser grouping of nations to pursue a neutralist policy that, as its ultimate objective, could have the ending of both Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

The time had come when a future Labour government should have a distinctive, independent, socialist, internationalist policy, one that would not be tied to the coat tails of the United States, especially under the presidency of President Reagan.

Labour to study devolution issue

Shadow Cabinet ministers are to have talks in the next two weeks on Labour's attitude towards devolution because of reaction among English Labour backbenchers against decisions taekn by the party in Scotland.

The Labour Party conference in Scotland recently declared that a Scottish assembly should have revenue-raising powers, an dthe northern group Labour backbenchers last night told Mr Michael Foot, party leader, that if the next Labour Government puts that into effect it could have damaging consequences

New move on 'The Observer'

A further request that the purchase of a half stake in *The Observer* by Mr Roland (Tiny) Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho, should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was made last night by Mr John Smith, Opposition frontbench spokesman on trade.

Goalkeeper accused

Jan Moler, Bristol City's Swedish goalkeeper, is to appear before the city magistrates on Friday accused of infringing the immigration laws

Strike holds up RPI and jobless figures

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Crucial statistics on unemployment, the retail price index and the movement of wages will be withheld from Parliament by industrial action in the Civil Service, which yesterday spread to the Department of Employment, Scottish courts, military establishments and the ports of Hull and Felixstowe.

Nearly 50 computer operators at the employment ministry's Runcorn computer centre walked out on indefinite strike on the day that the Government announced higher jobless figures. Civil Service unions say their action will halt work on a wide range of statistical activity, including the monthly unemployment count.

Their stoppage, which resulted from a local initiative, demonstrates that area "action committees" are getting the bit between their teeth as the pay dispute gathers pace.

More than 40 clerical staff and revenue assistants walked out at the King George V docks in Hull, and nine stopped work in Felixstowe.

National union leaders, who have sanctioned these local guerrilla strikes, expressed satisfaction at the response to a strike call in the Scottish courts and a number of military establishments. The Glasgo Sheriff court, said to be the busiest in Europe, was at a standstill.

More than 2,500 civil servants are now on strike, and London area union officials decided yesterday to mount a one-day strike in the capital involving about 150,000 government employees on April 1, the date that their 1981 salary increase should take effect.

The unions are claiming 15 per cent, but have been offered only 7 per cent, and Mr William Kendall, general secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions (COCSU), said when he joined a picket line of Inland Revenue officers at Bush House, London: "Nobody is negotiating with me, so I may as well do something useful."

Mr Anthony Christopher, general secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation (IRSF), accused Bush House Civil Service management of "provocative action".

He added: "Cowboys hired to drive cars and vans have been driving dangerously. We have had four pickets knocked down."

Cheque sorting by senior civil servants, against which the unions were protesting, was transferred to an unlisted military intelligence building in Great Marlborough Street, and the pickets moved there too.

"Wherever they do this work, we will follow", Mr Christopher said. "While the Government remains silent, the chaos in their money supply is spreading."

Leading article, page 15

Glee on cuts 'distressing'

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The constant cutting of essential public services would cause long-term damage to society, Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said yesterday.

Speaking at the Local Authority Management Services and Computer conference in Eastbourne, he replied to criticism from the Government of local authorities' failure to make the required spending reductions.

He said he was distressed by the obvious glee with which some councils seemed to be setting about the task.

"Too many local authorities are accepting without question that cut can follow cut and that millions of pounds can be saved without doing any long-term damage to the society in which we live and without putting at risk some of the essential services which have been built up so painstakingly over generations."

Authorities had to balance the needs of services against the effects of rate increases on small businesses and individuals, but resolving that dilemma must remain the responsibility of democratically elected local government.

"Hinting at still more legislation to curb what freedom is left to local authorities is madness. New legislation would precipitate a new constitutional crisis over the role of local government", he said.

Mr Smart, with other leaders of local government, later met Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, at a meeting of the joint consulative council on local government finance.

It was agreed at the meeting that working groups of central and local government should be set up to look at the ways in which the goverument grant is distributed to local authorities. Local government is particularly concerned that changes should be made in the new system in time for the grant allocations next year.

NGA flying pickets in court ban

By Our Labour Editor

The 1980 Employment Act, which was designed to prevent abuses of trade union power, was yesterday used for the first time to stop flying pickets from blockading a firm.

Mr Justice Forbes granted an injunction in the Birmingham High Court against eight members of the National Graphical Association, the craft printing union, to stop them picketing Wilkes (PCA) Data Supplies Ltd at West Bromwich.

The NGA said last night that the union would consult its lawyers about the court move, and Mr Alan Pearson, its national officer, said after the hearing: "I am obviously disappointed. But there are a lot of other ways we can attack the company within the law."

The craft printing workers have taken a lead in the TUC and the Labour Party in framing the trade union movement's militant opposition to the Employment Act, and Mr Leslie Dixon the NGA president said: "If we have a bad law, we have no alternative but to break it."

The company took out the injunction against printing workers employed at Wilkes Business Forms, a sister company in Bilston, West Midlands, who were picketing the West Bromwich firm. The dispute arose over redundancies and came to a head when an NGA member was dismissed. A strike followed and the company has closed offices in Bilston, Wolverhampton and Newcastle-under-Lyme.

The Employment Act gives employers the right to take legal action against trade unionists who picket other than at their own place of work.

Rail productivity strategy proposed

The National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) yesterday proposed a collective bargaining strategy to the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association aimed at getting serious productivity talks with the British Railways Board off the ground.

NUR leaders also argued that the unions should work together to reach a pay settlement operative from April 21.

Stornoway inquiry ends

The inquiry into plans for a £40m upgrading of the Nato base at Stornoway Airport ended yesterday after six days. Mr A. G. Bell, who heads the inquiry, intends to visit RAF Leuchars to hear the noise effects of a Tornado or Phantom aircraft before making his final recommendations.

He is expected to have the written part of his report completed by the end of April.

In his concluding speech at the inquiry, Mr David Edward, counsel for the Ministry of Defence, said experts' evidence had shown some noise at high level was inevitable. But what was envisaged was not intolerable, either in terms of level or frequency.

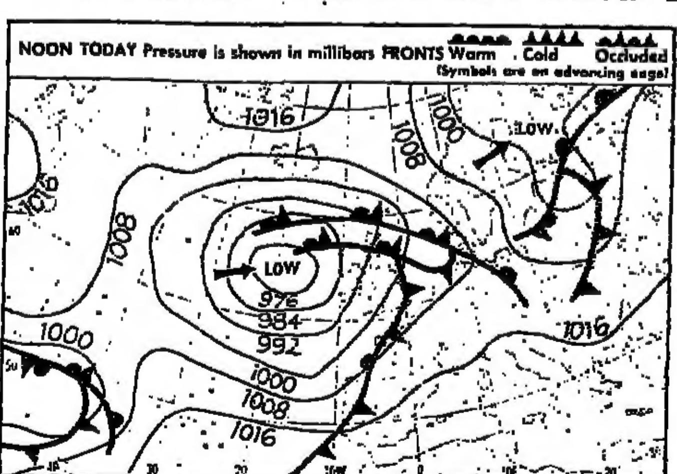
In peacetime the airport would be used only for exercises of up to two weeks, three times a year.

Barbara Windsor faints on stage

Barbara Windsor, the actress fainted on stage just after the start of last night's performance of *Entertaining Mr Sloane* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, West London, and the performance was abandoned.

Miss Windsor, aged 43 needed oxygen and was treated by a doctor. She was recovering later at her home in north London.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 5.52 am | Sun sets: 6.22 pm
Moon sets: 8.13 am | Moon rises: 11.25 pm
Last quarter: March 28.
Lighting up: 6.52 pm to 5.20 am.
High Water: London Bridge: 4.26 am, 6.9m; 4.44 pm, 6.9m. Avonmouth 9.43 am, 12.5m; 9.55 pm, 12.2m. Dover 1.26 am, 6.3m; 1.38 pm, 6.0 am. Hull 8.54 am, 7.0m; 9.08 pm, 6.9m. Liverpool, 1.38 am, 8.6m; 1.48 pm, 8.5m.
1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

A moist S or SW airstream will persist over most districts; frontal troughs will move slowly N over Scotland.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE England, East Anglia: Cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, hill fog, perhaps a little drier from W later, wind S or SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

Central S England, Channel Islands: Cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, hill and coastal fog, becoming drier from W, wind SW fresh or strong; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

E Midlands, E, central N, NE England: rather cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, hill fog, becoming drier from W with a few bright intervals; wind S moderate or fresh; max temp 13° to 15°C (55° to 59°F).

W Midlands NW England: Rather cloudy, occasional showers, some bright intervals, wind S, moderate or fresh; max temp 13° to 15°C (55° to 59°F).

SW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: rather cloudy, frequent showers, some heavy, hill and coastal fog patches, some bright intervals inland, wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Unsettled, showers or longer periods of rain, some bright intervals; temp near normal.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind S, strong, locally gale; sea rough or very rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13°C (55°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10°C (50°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 87 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02in. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,003.3 millibars, steady. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; th, thunder.



		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	th	15	59	Cologne	c	13	55	Lisbon	c	18	61	Nice	s	16	61
Amsterdm	c	11	52	Copenhgn	c	7	45	Locarno	s	16	61	Oslo	c	3	37
Athens	s	16	61	Edinburgh	c	12	54	London	r	11	52	Paris	r	13	51
Barbados	f	29	84	Florence	c	15	59	Luxembrg	c	11	52	Rome	f	17	63
Barcelona	s	23	73	Funchal	s	19	66	Madrid	f	16	61	San Fran	f	13	55
Beirut	f	18	64	Geneva	s	18	64	Majorca	s	19	66	Stockhlm	r	1	34
Berlin	c	11	52	Gibraltar	s	19	66	Malaga	s	20	68	Tel Aviv	s	18	64
Bermuda	f	20	68	Guernsey	c	11	52	Malta	s	20	68	Vancouvr	f	9	48
Biarritz	f	25	77	Helsinki	f	2	36	Miami	s	19	66	Venice	c	9	48
Birmnghm	c	11	52	Innsbruck	f	16	61	Montreal	r	6	43	Vienna	c	17	63
Bristol	c	11	52	Istanbul	c	10	50	Munich	f	15	59	Warsaw	c	10	50
Brussels	c	12	54	Jersey	c	12	54	Naples	c	15	59	Washinton	s	16	61
Chicago	s	9	48	L Palmas	s	23	73	N York	s	11	52	Zurich	f	17	63

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 26; Bahrain [illegible]; Belgium B frs 35; Canaries Pts 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dh 7.00; Finland [illegible]; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 3.50; [illegible]; Iraq ID 0.300; Irish Republic [illegible]; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD [illegible]; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL [illegible]; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 40; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rs 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR [illegible]; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pts 100; Sweden Skr 6.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.50; Tunisia Din 450; US [illegible]; Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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Review finds Chancery courts are 'archaic'

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

Wide-ranging reforms of the way the Chancery Division of the High Court conducts its business are proposed in a report of a two-man review body published yesterday.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said that if the proposals were implemented it would mean "quicker justice, because litigants would get before the courts sooner; cheaper justice, because the necessary legal steps would be fewer; and the Chancery courts would be more accessible to people outside London".

The authors of the report, *Lord Justice Oliver and Mr* John Woolf, who was until recently the director general of establishments in the Customs and Excise Department, found considerable evidence that the Chancery Division was run on archaic, inflexible and inefficient lines, wasteful both of manpower and money.

One finding was that the 12 judges in the Division (which deals mainly with trusts, wills, company law, bankruptcy and commercial disputes) sat in court for only 55 per cent of normal available court hours.

It found "wholly unacceptable" the waiting time of 13 or 14 months between a case being set down for hearing and being given a date when it would come before the court. The report makes recommendations intended to reduce that period to less than six months.

The greatest number of complaints about the work of the Chancery Division related to delays in drawing up court orders, the documents that explain what the court had decided and what further steps need to be taken.

The average time taken between the decision and the drawing up of the order was just under six weeks; nearly a third took more than ten weeks. Those delays could be reduced "to days rather than months".

Most of the 86 proposals made by the review team are procedural and administrative.

Their cumulative effect, the authors believe, would greatly reduce delays and costs and improve efficiency.

Proposed staffing changes, for instance, would reduce the salary budget by 20 per cent. They include the abolition of the ranks of Chancery registrar (whose top salary is nearly £20,000) and deputy registrar.

Some new appointments are proposed. A senior administrator, of at least assistant secretary grade, should be appointed to exercise administrative responsibility for the three divisions of the High Court.

Other proposals include: the extension of regular Chancery court hearings to Birmingham, Bristol and Cardiff; a cheaper system for contesting wills: the setting up of a permanent civil procedure committee; reform of the filing and typing systems: and *ex parte* applications (where only one party is present) to be heard in private.

Report of the Review Body on the Chancery Division of the High Court (Stationery Office, £5.30).

Councils devise rival plan for finance of higher education

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Surprisingly far-reaching proposals for the establishment of a national body to plan and finance all higher education in the public sector will be put to local authority representatives at a closed meeting of the Council of Local Education Authorities today.

The confidential proposals, which are expected to be approved by the meeting, are the local authorities' answer to the Department of Education and Science's highly controversial leaked proposals to take higher education out of local authority ownership and put it under the direct financial and administrative control of a national body on which the local authorities would have no direct representation.

The department's proposals provoked fiercer opposition from the local authorities than education ministers had expected.

At one stage the local authorities refused to participate further in the joint discussions between the universities and the local authorities set up by the department in an attempt to get some kind of joint policy on all higher education.

The temporary crisis was averted when Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, invited the local authorities to put their proposals for higher education in the public sector, and explained that he had planned to consult them before any decisions were taken.

The local authority proposals, drawn up by officials of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of County Councils, go some way towards meeting Mr Carlisle's ideas.

As under the department's proposals, the national body proposed by the local authorities would not be simply advisory but would have the power to finance institutions directly from central funds provided either by a direct grant from government or by levying contributions from local authorities and would also have the power to rationalize higher education provision and to approve individual courses.

The local authorities' proposals differ from the departments in that the colleges and polytechnics would continue in local authority ownership; local authorities would have a majority of members on the national body; and all higher education would be funded directly by the new body, including advanced courses in colleges where most of the courses were non-advanced.

Under the department's proposals, only those institutions with 70 per cent or more of their work in higher education, amounting to some 100 of the 400 maintained coleges in England and Wales, would have come under the national body.

The department's proposals came up against strong opposition from environment ministers when they went to a Cabinet subcommittee last month, on the ground that the Government had enough of a battle on its hands already with local authorities over local government finance without antagonizing them further. But the proposals were supported by industry ministers.

Beach finds lead museum to dinosaurs

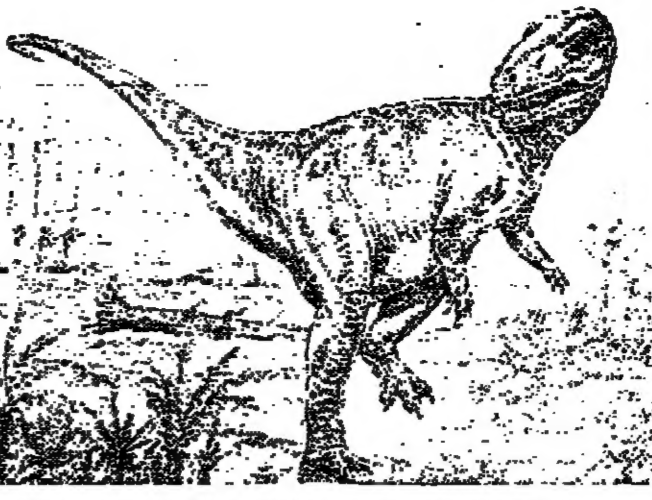
By Kenneth Gosling

Some chance finds on an Isle of Wight beach and a television programme by Mr David Bellamy, the botanist, have led to the Natural History Museum identifying more than a hundred bones as belonging to the dinosaur known as megalosaurus.

The discovery has excited museum officials because it is the most complete example ever found from the period with which it is associated, lower cretaceous, which puts its age at about 120 million years.

In due course the bones, which are lying in a tray in a sub-basement at the museum, will be put on public diplay. They were picked up by holidaymakers in the summer of 1978 on Brighstone Beach,

Dr Angela Milner, senior scientific officer in the museum's department of palaeontology, said: "It gives us our best evidence of the carniverous dinosaur. There are pieces of vertebra, small pieces of skull and a section which shows the natural articulation of the neckbone."



Megalosaurus, which grew up to six metres long

The holidaymakers had no idea of the significance of what they had found until one of them saw the David Bellamy programme and got in touch with the museum. The pieces, *which are believed to have* fallen from the cliffs, are from one animal, a fact verified when two parts brought in independently fitted together perfectly.

Megalosaurus is historically important because the first dinosaur bone to be identified, about 300 years ago, probably belonged to that species.

Sir Richard Owen, *first director* of the Natural History Museum, which is celebrating its centenary this year, in 1841 grouped together the iguanadon, the megalosaurus and the hylaeosaurus into the dinosauria, or "terrible lizards".

The new discovery gives the museum what it calls "an extra record in space and time".

The museum is urging holidaymakers not to risk prising any fossils out of the cliffs. But if anyone is lucky enough to find any while beachcombing, Dr Milner would like them to note the exact spot and tell the museum.

Police accused by siege man's brother

The brother of Mr George O'Dell, the former world motor cycle sidecar champion, who killed himself in a blazing house on Monday after a four-hour gun siege, made an official complaint yesterday over the way police handled the affair.

Mr John O'Dell said: "The police were with my brother inside the house for four hours, but no one bothered to contact his family. I know I could have talked him into giving himself up quietly, so could my mother

The former world champion died in the fire at his brother-in-law's home in Ashtree Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. During a family dispute, Mr O'Dell fired a shotgun several times, injuring his wife, brother-in-law and nephew.

"The police did not even bother to tell us until midday.

But Superintendent Alan Newton, who was in the house with Mr George O'Dell for three hours during the siege, described him as drunk, erratic and dangerous.

Hertfordshire police refused to comment on Mr John O'Dell's remarks.

Strasbourg to rule on British jail censoring

By Lucy Hodges

A report which found the Government guilty of violating the European Convention on Human Rights over censoring prisoners' mail has been referred to the European Court in Strasbourg for a binding legal decision, it was disclosed yesterday.

That means that the European Court has before it five cases against the United Kingdom Government. The censoring case, which involves complaints brought by six British prisoners, is seen as far-reaching because of the challenge it poses to the prison rules and to the lack of any adequate appeal system for prisoners who have complaints about such issues as food or harassment.

A report drawn up by the European Commission of Human Rights, which has not yet been published, has found violations by the Government on four counts. The report has been sent to the Committee of Ministers and at the commission's last session was referred to the court, the last stage in the procedure.

If the court rules against the United Kingdom, changes would almost certainly have to be made in the prison regulations and approved by Parliament. An independent appeal mechanism for prisoners' complaints would also have to be set up or the Government would have to allow prisoners quick access to the courts. At present it is difficult for prisoners to sue.

The Home Office has decided to reform the prison rules and said yesterday it would take note of any decision from Europe. It is understood that reforms have been strongly resisted by the Prison Officers' Association.

One of the prisoners who complained to Strasbourg was Mr Michael McMahon, who was released from prison last year after serving more than ten years for the murder of a Luton sub-postmaster. He has always maintained his innocence and was released on the recommendation of the Home Secretary

Mr McMahon complained that letters he sent to the BBC asking for transcripts of programmes about his case were stopped. One prison rule is that inmates may not write letters to anyone they did not know before they entered jail.

Prisoners are allowed to write letters of complaint only to members of either house of Parliament or to their solicitors once their grievances have been ventilated internally.

Short-term solutions: Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, was called on yesterday to legislate for the rapid introduction of an early release or automatic parole scheme for short-term prisoners (a Staff Reporter writes).

Miss Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said such measures were needed in the light of the Government's disclosure of a rise in the prison population of 4,000 to 43,500 over the past two months.

Marriage law change: The Government is to prepare legislation to change the marriage laws in England, Wales and Northern Ireland so that prisoners can be married in jail and housebound invalids can be married in the place in which they live (Our Parliamentary Staff writes).

Judge has doubt on speed trap

Stricter guidelines for police radar guns were called for by Judge Charles Pitchford at Newport Crown Court yesterday after he allowed an appeal against conviction by a driver caught in a speed trap.

Mr Desmond Hughes, aged 33, an electrical engineer, of Began Road, St Mellons, Cardiff, was stopped for alleged speeding near Newport, Gwent, by traffic officers operating a radar gun widely used by police forces. They recorded his speed at 49 mph in a 30 mph area, but he claimed he was doing only 30 mph.

He was later fined £20 and began a year-long investigation into radar devices to prepare an appeal.

The judge said the evidence showed that the gun might have given false readings. Before setting up a speed trap police should test the gun against a vehicle travelling at a known speed: should test the site for possible sources of radio interference; make sure their radio equipment was not being used near the gun; and take care there was a suitable period before the figure shown on the gun was locked into the mechanism to give the final reading.

Nurse broke patient's jaw at Rampton, court told

A charge nurse at Rampton, the special hospital in Nottinghamshire, punched a patient in the face because he was "playing up", it wah alleged yesterday.

The blow broke the man's jaw, which had to be wired up and took several weeks to heal, Leicester Crown Court was told. The nurse, Gerald Brian Bowskill, aged 47, denied causing grievous bodily harm to Mr Peter Sheerin, a patient.

Mr Sheerin told the court that on the evening of the incident, in July, 1974, he had a fight with another patient in the television room over who should umpire a cricket match. Mr Bowskill, charge nurse on the ward, unsuccessfully tried to separate them and then punched him on the jaw.

Next morning Mr Bowskill saw him and he (Mr Sheerin) agreed to tell the doctor that the other patient had caused the injury.

Mr Jeremy Roberts, for the prosecution, said Mr Sheerin's jaw was so painful that he was unable to eat. When he was taken to Doncaster Royal Infirmary it was found to be broken.

The matter came to light some five years later, when police were making inquiries into alleged incidents at Rampton, he said.

The case continues today.

Author cleared of possessing carbine illegally

David Anne, author of the best selling book, *Rabid*, was cleared yesterday of possessing a Second World War German carbine without recording it on his firearms certificate.

Mr Anne, aged 50, of Amport, near Andover, Hampshire, denied the offence, which involved a German military 7.92mm bolt action carbine used in a window display.

Magistrates at Andover were told the carbine's barrel was blocked with a welded steel rod, and that a part retaining the cartridges had been removed.

Mr Anne said: "It is often said that the law is an ass, and sometimes, regrettably, this is right. But on this occasion it is not the law which is an ass but those who seek to interpret it."

The magistrates dismissed the case.

Courts must not be shackled, clerks insist

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Attempts to fetter the discretion of courts in sentencing would be neither effective nor profitable, the Justices' Clerks' Society said yesterday in evidence to the Parliamentary All-Party Penal Affairs Group.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is considering how to encourage a reduction in prison sentences to alleviate prison overcrowding. Legislation is one option open to him, but he would prefer courts to act of their own volition.

The society yesterday agreed, in a paper to the group, that where a sentence is unavoidable it should not be a day longer than necessary, and short sentences should be preferred to long.

The society says imprisonment should be retained as a sanction for fine defaulters.

Two sea chase men get bail

Bail was granted yesterday to two of the men arrested after a tug, the Sea Rover, was chsed across the Channel on March 5 to Newhaven by French and British customs men who suspected the vessel of drug running.

The other eight were remanded in custody for a week by magistrates at Lewes, East Sussex. All are accused of illegally importing cannabis into the United Kingdom. Reporting restrictions were lifted earlier.

Robert Morris, aged 31, a Canadian of no fixed address and Wilfred Duffy, aged 30, a factory worker, of North Croft, Oldham, Greater Manchester, were granted bail

Both were remanded until May 13 on a surety of £5,000 each and on condition that they report twice daily to the police

The eight remanded in custody were: Brian Ellan, aged 33, of Lower Lime Road, Oldham; Antonius Ollhock, aged 56, the tug skipper, from Ryswyk; Bertus Erran, aged 37, of The Hague; Antonius van der Putten, aged [illegible], of Hook of Holland; Christiaan Jansen, aged 27, and Ernest Joustra, aged 44, both of no fixed address, all from Holland, Mohammed Abdul Nasser, aged 32, and Abdul Salam Elthal aged 32, both of Morocco. An eleventh man Ernest Appleby, aged 50, a cafe owner, of Hornshaw Lane, Oldham, was remanded on bail last week.

Ulster majority rule not an option in new devolution move

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

The Government is to make a fresh attempt to restore devolved powers to Northern Ireland. The first steps will be taken in the summer, possibly in June.

There are no plans to hand back powers to the 26 district councils, dwespite the repeated demands of all the Unionist parties. The councils will continue to have control over only the most mundane of local affairs, to prevent the danger of discrimination against the Roman Catholic minority.

The Government is keenly awaiting the result of the local elections in May to discover who speaks for a majority of Ulster "loyalists". The election has been seen for some time as one of the most critical tests facing the Official Unionists, traditionally the party of power in Northern Ireland, but now the contest will assume even greater significance.

A central theme of the Government's proposed new move will be the protection of Catholics against discrimination, as in the failed political initiative of last year. Outright majority rule will not be an option.

The outline plan is to begin the process by individual meetings between Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and leaders of the main political parties. Talks between the leaders, with Mr Atkins in the chair, may follow.

What might happen then is not clear. But there is little enthusiasm within the Government for trying to convene a full conference on the model of last year, during which Mr Atkins presided over hundreds of hours of political negotiation and bargaining before the exercise was wound up shortly before Christmas.

The new attempt at political reform is regarded as a continuation of last year's efforts rather than a completely new beginning. News of the Government's intention will surprise most political observers, who had assumed that the Government had given up any hope of devolution for the lifetime of this Parliament.

The local government elections will now become almost struggle for supremacy between the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, and his bitter rival, Mr James Molyneaux, of the Official Unionists.

Despite his denials, Mr Paisley's campaign against the Anglo-Irish joint study committees set up in January is widely regarded as a curtain-raiser for the local elections. Those studies are highly confidential, which has helped Mr Paisley to make inflated claims about their constitutional significance.

So far there have been only two sessions between civil servants of Britain and Ireland, the first in London about a month ago, the second in Dublin just over a week ago. A third session has not been arranged.

Five committees are in operation, considering issues like citizenship rights, energy and tourism. The British end of the exercise is being worked out through the Cabinet Office and the Foreign Office, but a number of Whitehall departments are involved in consideration of the various subject headings.

The Northern Ireland Office does not have responsibility for the overall administration. Its principle involvement is on joint security.

'Loyalists' seem set to clash in by-election

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

Nominations opened yesterday for the Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election, and the signs last night were that bitter divisions in the Unionist camp would produce two main rival "loyalist" candidates.

If the anti-Unionist factions limit the number of candidates, the way could be clear for a nationalist victory. Provisional Sinn Fein will decide in the next few days whether to stand. Mr Noel Maguire, brother of the late republican MP, says he will hand in his nomination papers as an independent candidate today.

Provisional Sinn Fein would not seriously expect to make a significant impression in the election, particularly as much of the "deep green" vote will go to Mrs Bernadette McAliskey, who as Bernadette Devlin captured mid-Ulster in a by-election in April, 1969, as an independent unity candidate. The Provisionals are considering whether to put up one of the Maze hunger strikers.

Mrs McAliskey is standing as an independent and her campaign will concentrate on the hunger strikers and the demand by republican prisoners for political status. If the provisionals decide not to stand they will not actively oppose her, nor will they offer support.

The difference between Mrs McAliskey and Provisional Sinn Fein is essentially one of emphasis over the use of violence, and she also does not accept Sinn Fein's traditional policy of abstentionism.

The Democratic Unionist Party, headed by the Rev Ian Paisley, and the United Ulster Unionist Party have agreed to support a single candidate. He is Mr Roy Kells, a draper from Lisnaskea, who a few weeks ago survived the second IRA attempt on his life. He is a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment.

Mr Kells, a popular figure in the rural communities of south Fermanagh, runs his shop on the other side of the street from where Mr Frank Maguire lived.

Mr Maguire, who died three weeks ago, had the distinction of hodling the seat for more than five years before making his maiden speech.

The Social Democratic and Labour Party is to decide on a candidate tomorrow.

The Official Unionist Party was considering its choice of candidate last night. Mr Richard Ferguson, who represented the party in 1979, has once more put forward his name for selection.

General election: F. Maguire (Ind), 22,398; H. Ferguson (Off Un), 17,411; A. Currie (Ind SDLP), 10,785; E. Baird (UUUP), 10,607; P. Acheson (Alliance), 1,070; M'alnnity, 4,987. The electorate was 71,541. The percentage poll was 88.9.

A 'second-rate' robber proved most elusive, resilient, and ran hardest

Fugitive whose exploits stole the headlines

By Craig Seton

Ronald Biggs was supposedly the least talented of the Great Train Robbers. He was sentenced to 30 years for his part in stealing £2.5m, but escaped from prison after less than two years, eluded police in Australia and beat off an attempt to extradite him from Brazil, where he has lived for 10 years.

Mr Biggs, aged 51, a former south London carpenter, has grown into middle age since the day 17 years ago he telephoned Mr Bruce Reynolds, another of the robbers, to raise £400 to put down on a house. Instead he was recruited for "a big job" and ended up on the run with his share of £148,000.

Fifteen men carried out the spectacular raid on the night mail train from Glasgow to Euston in August, 1963. They divided the money at Leatherslade Farm, Buckinghamshire, and panicked as the police closed in.

Three were never caught. Some evaded capture for several years. Six of them, including Mr Biggs, were sentenced to 30 years in prison. He escaped from Wandsworth Prison in 1965 and became a fugitive for the next 15 years.

Mr Biggs, the latecomer to the team of robbers, was looked down on by its other members, "professional criminals" who thought he was second-rate. But of the 12 who were eventually arrested, he proved the most elusive and resilient and ran the hardest of all.

His exploits after his escape made the Great Train Robbery the longest and most spectacular saga in British criminal history.

After his escape from prison Mr Biggs had plastic surgery, a nose operation and face lift. He bought a false passport and claimed later that much of his money was spent paying for his escape and being kept by "minders". A sum of £30,000 was given to a solicitor and never recovered, he said.

He escaped to Australia and his wife, Mrs Charmain Biggs, joined him later with their two sons. A third son was eventually born in Adelaide and the family, using an assumed name, set up home in Melbourne.

Late in 1969 Mr Biggs was assumed to be in Australia and his photograph was shown on television screens. Once again he was on the run, this time to South America.

He escaped being captured by the Australian police by only nine hours, but he has always maintained that his flight, leaving hebihnd hiGs wife and children, was his greatest regret. Although he saw his wife again in South America four years later, she divorced him and now works as a journalist in Melbourne.

In Brazil Mr Biggs lived undetected for four years until 1974. He was then using the name Michael Haynes, but the Daily Express revealed his identity and Supt Jack Slipper, of Scotland Yard, flew to Rio de Janeiro to start extradition proceedings.

But Mr Biggs eluded the police again. He announced that his girl friend, Raimlunda Nascimemto de Castro, was expecting his child and Brazilian law prohibited the deportation of a father of a dependent Brazilian child.

Supt Slipper returned home and Mr Biggs settled down to a further six years of life in the South American sun.

Mis Brazilian son, Michael, is now six. During those years Mr Biggs became something of a record with an English pop a national celebrity. He made group, took cocktails on board a British Navy ship visiting Rio and starting writing a book of his exploits.

Although a convicted criminal and fugitive, Mr Biggs still manages to arouse sympathy where it is least expected.

Mr Slipper, now retired from the police force, said yesterday: "I am disappointed for him. I would like to have seen him come back under his own steam. I am not soft hearted, but I do feel Biggs has put up a good fight and done very well. It was an outstanding achievement getting free."

Mr Slipper said Mr Biggs was entitled to feel upset, especially as he had left behind in Brazil his son whom he had brought up.

Mr "Buster" Edwards, another of the robbers, who served nine years of a 15-year sentence, now runs a flower stall outside Waterloo station, in London.

He described the kidnappers yesterday as animals and said: "They have done it purely and simply for the money, no other reason. Even Scotland Yard cannot condone the way he has been captured."

Mr Edwards said he was very upset about Mr Biggs's arrest. "Biggs was only pulled in at the last minute (on the robbery) because he knew a train driver. Literally that was it. He was not in our class."

If Mr Biggs is returned to England to serve out at least some of his sentence he would probably regard it as appropriate that it took not a police operation but an elaborate, expensive and rather dubious enterprise to ensnare him.

It is also appropriate that even at this stage, with Mr Biggs locked in a police cell in Barbados, nobody, least of all the police, will be convinced that he has finally stopped running until he is back in prison again.



Mr Biggs relaxing on a Rio de Janeiro beach before he was kidnapped.

Warden of All Souls seeks auction compromise

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Two of the biggest names in the British legal establishment are helping Britain's art dealers and auctioneers to resolve their dispute over the autioneers' 10 per cent buyer's premium.

Lord Goodman was the first to take an initiative, suggesting that a mediator should be employed to help to find a compromise before a case due in the High Court in the autumn begins.

The mediator suggested by Lord Goodman, who was accepted by both parties, is Mr Patrick Neill, QC, Warden of All Souls College, Oxford, and chairman of the Press Council. Mr Neill agreed to tackle the problem some months ago; so far he has devoted his efforts to talking to the various parties and familiarizing himself with the issues.

He has not yet put a compromise to either party; nor has either party yet formally discussed with the other the basis for a compromise. However, both wish to settle amicably, and that is underlined by the appointment of a mediator.

Several compromise formulas have been put forward by interested parties; details of one formula were given in The Times last Friday.

The case centres on the deep resentment felt by dealers at the introduction by Sotheby's and Christie's in 1976 of a 10 per cent extra charge to all buyers. It has been called "a service charge for which no service is performed"; they argue that the auctioneers act as sellers' agents and have no right to charge buyers as well.

The dealers allege that the two auction houses colluded over the introduction of the buyers' premium, thus contravening the Fair Trading Act. The introduction of the buyers' premium, an innovation in Britain, was announced by Christie's on a Friday afternoon and by Sotheby's on the next Monday. The two auctioneers say that their decisions were taken independently.

In theory both auctioneers charge both seller and buyer 10 per cent of the hammer price on every sale. In the case of goods of high quality which they are particularly anxious to secure for sale, the auctioneers will negotiate a lower selling commission.

In special cases it is cut to zero. That in effect means that only the buyer is paying for the auctioneers' costs, although the auctioneer is acting for the seller.

It seems likely that some compromise will be found through adjusting percentages.

The dealers are split between hawks and doves and it is not clear how large a concession would be needed to satisfy them. The case is being brought by a group of 11 individual dealers drawn from the Society of London Art Dealers and the British Antique Dealers' Association.

Sale Room, page 15

Eire unity claim damaging, Mrs Thatcher says

From Michael Hornsby
Maastricht

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said yesterday that she was "very concerned" about the remarks made as the weekend by Mr Brian Lenhan, Foreign Minister of the Irish Republic, who said in an interview that Irish unity could be achieved in five to 10 years.

In a private meeting in Maastricht, the Netherlands, with Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the republic, Mrs Thatcher said bluntly that such statement were "damaging and unhelpful". The rebuke for Mr Haughey was made knewn by British sources.

The two leaders met during the summit meeting of EEC heads of government. It has become the custom to use the thrice yearly summits for a bilateral review of Anglo-Irish relations, but this time the exchanges were more pointed than usual.

Evidently anxious to play down the incident, Mr Haughey told journalists that he "would not wish to say anything that would disturb the smooth flow of the joint studies" set up after last December's Dublin meeting with Mrs Thatcher.

He believed those studies were still useful and beneficial and said he had parted from Mrs Thatcher with "friendly goodbyes" after their talks.

Ex-constable 'hung girl on cross'

Miss A, a friend of Peter Swindell, a former police constable accused of causing the death of a prostitute, said in a police statement read to the Central Criminal Court yesterday that she was tied to a cross at his house.

She had gone out with Mr Swindell for several months, she said. On the last occasion she was led to an upstairs box room in the house in Walthamstow, East London.

Mr Swindell lashed her to a big wooden cross, tied a black hood over her face, and left her, she said. "He said be was punishing me for turning up late. Later I heard his voice say, 'How are you enjoying yourself up there? This will teach you to let me down

The statement was read to the jury by the prosecution, who allege Mr Swindell's perversions caused the death of Miss Pat Malone, aged 22, a prostitute and lesbian.

Mr Swindell, aged 40, a former member of the diplomatic patrol group, denies killing Miss Malone but admits that he prevented her burial.

Miss A was said not to be one of several prostitutes Mr Swindell is said to have paid about £25 a time

She said that after some time on the cross she "got hysterical and felt faint. I told him to get me off the cross, and he undid the rope. My arms were red raw and tender."

A number of statements from prostitutes who had gone to Mr Swindell's home were read

One, Carol Preston, told the police she discovered an inflatable doll in his bedroom. "It had a blonde wig and gas mask on. I asked what it was and he said he had put the mask on because she was a naughty girl."

In other alleged statements, five prostitutes described being tied up by Mr Swindell in harnesses, collars and masks, and photographed.

The jury was shown a studded black leather hood, a whip, a pair of goggles with blacked-out eyes, handcuffs, leg manacles, a leather collar and a black leather body harness, identified by Miss A and the prostitutes.

The trial continues today.

Better nuclear power training call

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Stricter safety precautions in nuclear power stations are suggested by the Electrical Power Engineers' Association in a review of United Kingdom practices in the light of the accident at Three Mile Island in the United States two years ago.

The association calls particularly for better training of control engineers to recognize the conditions that can lead to accidents. Failure to recognize warning signals contributed to the scale of the Three Mile Island disaster.

The American design of pressurized water reactor is not in use in Britain, although it is being considered for a station at Sizewell, in Suffolk, but the association says that there are general principles of reactor control.

Computer simulators are used in training to reproduce emergency conditions, but simulators for both the first generation Magnox stations and the present generation of advanced gas-cooled reactors cannot reproduce all faults.

The association proposes revision of training courses to improve the information available from designers and educational advisers. A better rotation is suggested between training staff at the Magnox simulator centre, at Oldbury-on-Severn, Gloucestershire, and operating staff in the stations.

A shortage of specialists for advanced gas-cooled reactor simulators should be rectified, and simulators should be installed at all advanced gas-cooled reactor stations.

There should be a systematic review of the design and layout of controls.

In an accident an emergency press centre should be staffed by engineers specifically trained for the role. National and regional newspapers, radio and television services should ensure that at least one correspondent is conversant with nuclear technology and health physics.

Photograph by Jonathan Player

New Miss Pears: Natalie Norgrove, aged six, at the unveiling of her portrait as Miss Pears 1980, at the Royal Academy of Arts, London. She showed a picture of her own which she gave to this year's artist, Mr Bryan Organ.

Medical plan criticized as vandalism

By Nicholas Timmins

The proposal to close St Mary's Hospital preclinical medical school in London was criticized yesterday as academic vandalism, making no sense economically or academically, and making no sense for patients at the hospital whose services would be "quite outrageously damaged".

The proposal is one of several mergers and closures planned among London's medical schools, which are to be put in outline today to the senate of London University in an attempt to cut £5m from the university's £50m expenditure on medical education.

The senate will be asked to approve a large reduction in the medical schools' staff-student ratio. In addition, it will be asked to set up four consortia of medical schools, one for each geographical quarter of London.

Their job will be to decide which of the closures should take place. In particular, the northern consortium will have to resolve the increasingly bitter dispute between St Mary's and the Middlesex over which should lose part or all of its school in a joint merger with University College Hospital.

The proposal that St Mary's preclinical school should shut, as well as the Middlesex clinical school, which would take in two or three postgraduate institutions, was riticized by academic staff at St Mary's, the hospital's administrators, and the local MP, Mr John Wheeler, Conservative member for City of Westminster, Paddington.

Mr Wheeler said the proposals would "cripple the hospital and destroy the health care that is essential to patients in the area".

Unlike the Middlesex, isolated in central London with few patients nearby, the staff argued, St Mary's had 180,000 people living within three miles.

In brief

RAF men in sex party inquiry

Police have questioned up to twenty Servicemen and civilians at RAF Chivenor, near Braunton, north Devon, over alleged homosexual parties and pornographic film shows.

Detective Inspector Roger Jacobs, head of Barnstaple CID, said the seven-week inquiry was to find out if anyone under the age of 21 was involved.

'Northern Soho's' sex shop to be sold

The owners of a sex shop at Ardsley, Barnsley, who threatened to turn the town into a "Soho of the North" after they were criticized for siting it in a residential area near a junior school, have decided to sell it. Mothers have picketed the shop daily and it has been a constant target for vandals. The owners will look for another site in the area.

£1,000 telephone bill

Anthony Murray, aged 22, a New Zealander playing rugby for Wigan, made telephone calls costing £1,000 to his family because he was homesick, Wigan magistrates were told yesterday. He was given a conditional discharge and ordered to pay compensation after admitting dishonest use of the telephone system.

Live grenades found

Army bomb disposal officers yesterday removed three live hand grenades from a house in Netherton, West Midlands. The grenades were found by Mr Thomas Roberts while he was sorting through a box of mementos belonging to his late father-in-law.

Plea for more courts

The recent increase in crime meant that Britain needed more courts, Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said in Leicester yesterday. But they should never be allowed to become impersonal, he said after officially opening a £4m crown court building.

Union sues Tory party

The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs is taking legal action against the Conservative Party to force it to compensate 41 people it has made redundant. The union says the party failed to consult it as it legally should.

MG items auctioned

The remains of the MG car company, including a walnut table, chairs and MG flags, were auctioned yesterday at the former factory in Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

Moral responsibility for girl's death admitted

From Our Correspondent
Birmingham

David Pagett, who is accused of the murder of his girl friend, Miss Gail Kinchin, although she was killed by police bullets during a siege, admitted to a jury at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday that he was morally responsible for her death.

Mr Pagett, aged 31, of Deelands Road, Rubery, Birmingham, who is alleged to have used the pregnant Miss Kinchin as a shield against police firing, made a long statement from the dock.

"If she was being used as a shield she was being used to stop the firing", he said.

"Why does a man use a hostage and put the hostage in front of him? It is so that the police will not fire. I am morally responsible, and I stress that word 'morally', but there is a difference between the moral and the actual."

Mr Pagett, conducting his own defence, said he went in search of Miss Kinchin to tell her he was going to shoot himself. He found her at a friend's home and she left with him. She was never a hostage.

When they reached his flat "she wanted to go in as much as I did, out of the way, locked up where nobody could get at us".

He said he felt vulnerable when Miss Kinchin began pointing out the police marksmen surrounding the flat. He believed the police were preparing to storm the flat. "We went into the flat and we made love."

He and Miss Kinchin were on the bed when they heard loud noises outside and they went on to the landing, Miss Kinchin handing him the shotgun.

The trial continues today.

Tunnicliffe art collection

In our report on March 4 on the sale and possible break-up of the Charles Tunnicliffe art collection we stated that he had left his drawings and sketch books to his sister, Mrs Dorothy Downes, "to be disposed of by her in accordance with my wishes and instructions".

We have been asked to point out that this particular bequest and clause in the will failed, as the deceased never communicated any express wishes or instructions to Mrs Downes before or at the time of his will. The collection was therefore never under her control and we apologize to Mrs Downes for any suggestion that she might be disposing of the deceased's works in a manner contrary to his wishes.

Greater suicide risk among the divorced

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Marriage breakdown causes a startling increase in suicides, damages children and costs Britain about £1,000m a year, a conference in London was told yesterday.

Yet more marriages could be saved if there were more conciliation services and solicitors were more willing to take reconciliation seriously.

The conference, organized by the Marriage Research Centre at the Central Middlesex Hospital, was told that between one in four and one in three marriages in Britain were likely to end in divorce. Britain now had the highest divorce rate in the European Community.

Dr J. Dominian, a consultant psychiatrist and director of the the centre, said that there was much private misery behind the divorce statistics. As well as increased mental illness and emotional stress, marriage breakdown brought a seriously increased risk of suicide.

Among married people the suicide rate was 7.8 per 100,000. But among divorcees the rate rose to 35.5 and one study showed that it was 204.4 among married people living apart.

It was right that there should be widespread concern about the stability of marriage and family life. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, told the conference, but the Government must be wary of interfering in the basic rights of individuals

Divorce was incompatible with the Christian view of marriage, Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, told the conference. The increase in marriage breakdown and divorce reflected a deep-seated malaise in society which had affected the Roman Catholic community. The church recognized that its previous preparation for marriage was inadequate, and was formulating a new strategy.

Women doctors seek pensions for their spouses

By a Staff Reporter

The husbands of woman doctors in the National Health Service should be entitled to widowers' pensions, a meeting of MPs at the House of Commons was told yesterday.

Mrs Anne Gruneberg, secretary of the Medical Women's Federation, said the present situation was iniquitous. As more women were qualifying as doctors, the anomaly was growing.

"At the moment their widowers get no pension at all, unless, while still in good health, the woman proves that her husband is incapacitated and subjects herself to a means test to prove that the money coming into the home is almost entirely from her efforts." Woman doctors pay the same contribution

The federation has been encouraged to take the matter up after a recent ruling in the European Court

Citizen law 'could mean more bogus marriages'

By Philip Webster
Parliamentary Staff

Bogus marriages arranged to acquire the right to live in Britain and evade immigration control could be encouraged if the act of marriage gave an automatic right to British citizenship, the Commons standing committee on the nationality Bill was told yesterday.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of state for the Home Office, was resisting an Opposition call to give an alien the right of marrying a British subject to become British himself or herself. The Bill provides for persons marrying British citizens to apply for naturalization; they are required to fulfil a three-year residence qualification.

Mr Raison said that if an automatic entitlement to citizenship through marriage was given there would be no way of dealing with bogus marriages. Once the marriage was contracted, the person would be in. Such marriages would be particularly attractive to people threatened with deportation and who wished to settle in Britain, having been given only a temporary permit.

The Government was trying to create a British citizenship which reflected a tie with this country. "We do not think that marriage to a citizen on its own is a sufficient or satisfactory tie, and it is really related to the old concept that the wife is someone who belongs to the husband."

The Opposition approach could lead to abuse and evasion, and damage public confidence.

Mr John Tilley (Labour, Lambeth Central) said ethnic communities were offended by Conservative MPs describing perfectly legitimate arranged marriages as bogus.

Luxury ferry launched on Channel route

From Michael Baily
Shipping Correspondent
Sheerness

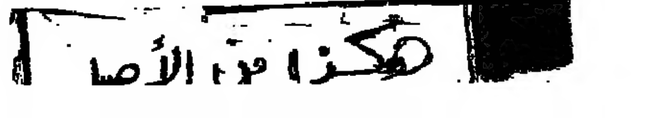
Cross-Channel passengers will enjoy high standards on a German ferry making her maiden voyage to Holland from Sheerness today.

The Olau Hollandia, 15,000 tons, will be the biggest ferry on the Channel. Amenities for the 1,500 passengers include a swimming pool, saunas, solarium, children's play room, supermarket, boutique, and private wash rooms in all cabins.

The £23m ship will take seven hours by day or 9½ by night for the 120-mile crossing to Flushing, at fares of £14 a passenger (about double the Dover rate) and £22 a car, irrespective of size.

Operating some way from the Dover Straits, the Olau Line claims to be hardly affected by the ferry price war there.

A second ship is being built in Germany and Mr Case Reitkerk, the line's United Kingdom general manager, predicted steady growth in cross-Channel traffic and a profitable return on the line's big investment, despite the recession.



Zimbabwe to receive £25m more aid from Britain as part of improved aid package

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 24

Lord Soames, who is leading the British delegation to the Zimbabwe conference on reconstruction and development, today announced that *Britain is* to contribute an additional £5m towards the cost of higher education for Zimbabwean students in Britain.

The £5m is part of a package amounting to £25m of new British aid which has been committed to Zimbabwe. *Lord* Soames said this brought Britain's total aid commitment to Zimbabwe since the country became independent a year ago to more than £140m.

His announcement came during a series of pledging speeches by representatives *from donor* nations and organizations which, by the end of the day, totalled £528m.

However, a breakdown of this figure was not immediately available, nor was it clear how much of this total was "new *money*" which did not take into account previous aid commitments, nor how much was in the form of grants or loans.

Zimbabwe is trying to raise more than $800m to finance reconstruction, rural development and manpower training projects over the next three years. It was clear from *today's pledges that the con*ference, which still has three days to run, will come close to achieving that figure.

Mr Tom Mswaka, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Economic Planning, said with mild understatement that he was "satisfied" with the outcome of the conference so far.

Britain's additional aid package falls into three parts. In addition to the £5m to the students, a further £10m is being earmarked for land settlement, including purchase of land from white farmers. Britain has so far earmarked £20m for land settlement projects. Another £10m will go towards the cost of regional communications projects in southern Africa.

Lord Soames said one scheme Britain had in mind was the improvement of the rail link to the Mozambique port of Beira, which used to be the country's *main export route before* closure of the border between Rhodesia (as it then was) and Mozambique in 1976.

The question of Zimbabwean student fees had threatened to sour the otherwise cordial relations with Zimbabwe. In 1966 Britain *joined a training scheme* to enable black Rhodesians, whose schooling was interrupted by the unilateral declaration of independence, to complete their studies in a number of Commonwealth countries.

However, after independence last year Britain said the new Government should pay for its overseas students.

Dr Tim Matthews, director of the Africa Educational Trust, said it would cost £15m to enable all Zimbabwean students finishing courses in Britain to continue for a further three years. Many of them could not return to study at the University of Zimbabwe, as there were more than 4,000 applicants for only 1,200 places.

While welcoming the increased funds he said this figure was "totally inadequate to meet the needs of many students who enrolled on courses which are not available in Zimbabwe".

Among the donor nations which responded today to the call by Dr Bernard Chidzero, Minister of Economic Planning, for a "healthy push to start us going" were the United States, West Germany, Sweden, The Netherlands, Canada, Norway, Australia, Denmark and France, as well as international organizations like the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

One of the largest commitments was ade by the United *States which will provide $75m* (abot $32.6 a year over the next three years, sbjet to ongressional approva of the Reagan Administration's aid budget.

Canada is to provide Can $50m (about £20m) over five years. West Germany will raise *its commitment from $12m to* about £18m in 1981, while France is offering to double its present aid worth £22m. At the bottom end the Japanese chipped in with about £3m.

Mr Njonjo named in Kenya plot trial

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 24

A Nairobi magistrate conducting a preliminary inquiry into an alleged plot to overthrow President Moi of Kenya was told today that Mr Andrews Muthemba, charged with treason, had claimed to represent a group of "big names", including Mr Charles Njonjo, the Minister of Constitutional and Home Affairs.

Captain Ricky Gatucha, of the Kenya Air Force, gave evidence today of conversations with Mr Muthemba and Mr Dickson Muiruiri, who is accused of misprision of treason. He said that Mr Muthemba had asked him to obtain quantities of arms, including machine guns, rifles, and hand grenades, for the alleged plot.

He told Mr Fidahussein Abdulla, the magistrate, that Mr Muthemba had told him: "The group I belong to has some big names, like Njonjo". Mr Muthemba had also claimed that Mr Ignatius Nderi, the head of *the Kenya Central Intelligence* Agency, had helped to prevent the discovery of the alleged plot.

Captain Gatucha said he had been acting with the knowledge of his superiors when meeting the two accused men.

Mr Muthemba had given him a list of arms wanted by the group, and had told him, when referring to President Moi, that "this man must go". The inquiry continues.

MP resigns: Mr Ougo Ochieng, the MP for Bondo, Western Kenya, announced today that he had resigned to allow Mr Oginga Odinga, the former Vice-President who was barred from the 1974 and 1979 elections, to return to Parliament through a by-election.

Mr Odinga was detained from 1969 to 1972 after forming the *short-lived* Kenya People's Union, which was dissolved. He rejoined the ruling Kenya African National Union but was denied formal clearance to stand as a candidate in the 1974 and 1979 elections. His life membership of Kanu has since been confirmed.

Squatters leaving houses they had occupied in the Kreuzberg district of West Berlin after police forces yesterday broke down fortifications built in front of the entrances.

Mr Bush's role upsets top Reagan aides

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 24

President Reagan, according to several reports, is to appoint Mr George Bush, his Vice-President, to be chairman of a crisis management committee of the National Security Council.

Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said today that he did not think a decision had been made on the issue, and that if it had "that would pose another set of problems".

Mr Haig was giving evidence to a Senate committee and was *asked about the reports. He* replied: "I read with interest and, I suppose, a lack of enthusiasm the same newspaper reports that you refer to. One recognizes that, however the President decides to organize his national security structure, that is both his prerogative nad obligation, but don't think a decision has been made on this issue.

"At least, it has not been discussed with me if one has been made. In that case, that would pose another set of problems", he said.

The *role of crisis manager* has usually been filled by the national security adviser. However, there has often been conflict between the adviser and the Secretary of State and the appointment of Mr Bush seems to be an attempt to hold rivalry between Mr Haig and Mr Reagan's national security adviser, Mr Richard Allen. It has displeased both of them.

Mr Allen is not likely to be partcularly pleased, if it goes through, because the Vice-President is part of the Ford-Kissinger-Haig wing of the Republican Party, not a hard-Furthermore, putting him in charge of arrangements for the summit implies that Mr Allen *such as event. There was con*siderable criticism of his arrangements for Mr Reagan's recent trip to Canada.

Mr Haig has been disturbed at some of the foreign policy pronouncements of members of the White House staff, including the speech by Mr Allen last Saturday in which he described "a rising tide of pacifism" in West Europe and denounced Britain's Labour Party.

Mr Haig also reacted sharply to an interview given by one of Mr Allen's assistants last week, in which he predicted that, unless the Russians give up communism, there will be a war between the Soviet Union and the United States.

In that interview the official, Mr Richard Pines, asserted that détente was dead. Mr Haig may incline to that belief himself but he would not say so publicly. He has insisted repeatedly that he is in charge of foreign policy and that officials of the National Security Council must follow his directions.

The trouble with this procedure is that Mr Allen works in the same building as the President and sees him every day.

EEC offers Poland food supplies

From Peter Norman
Maastricht, March 24

The leaders of the 10 EEC states today promised to continue providing economic support for Poland.

At their meeting here, the heads of government responded to Polish requests for food aid and a rescheduling of the country's huge debt burden by saying they were willing to act "within the limits of their means and in collaboration with others".

In a final statement, the EEC warned the Soviet Union to keep out of Poland's affairs. They emphasized that any other attitude would have very serious consequences for the future of international relations in Europe and throughout the world.

Poland proved to be the dominant theme during the informal part of the two-day summit.

An overriding concern was the state of the Polish economy, which Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said had "clearly deteriorated". M François-Xavier Ortoli, the EEC Commissioner responsible for financial affairs, went further and described Poland's economic position as "catastrophic".

The *Polish* Government approached the European Commission with a request for cheap *food supplies two days ago, and* today the heads of government ordered the Community institutions and member states to treat the issue as a matter of urgency. But an even bigger worry is the $25,000m (£11,000m) owed by Poland to the West.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, said after the meeting that all EEC states were prepared to help the Poles with food and finance.

President Giscard d'Estaing of France *said* that the French and West German governments had rescheduled their share of Poland's debt *burden* and he called on other countries to follow suit.

At present Poland's debt position *is* the subject of *nego*tiations with its creditors in the "Club of Paris". These *countries have agreed to* grant Poland bridging loans of $1,000m a quarter to tide the economy over

Mrs Thatcher also emphasized that the Poles must solve their own problems in their own way. But she underlined that Poland was an object of continual concern and that Britain was prepared to contribute food aid.

Bankers to confer: A group of international bankers will meet in London next Tuesday to continue negotiations on Poland's request to refinance about $3,100m *of commercial* debt falling due this year. The meeting is expected to be attended by Mr Jan Woloszyn, first Vice-President of Bank Handlowy, the Polish state foreign trade bank.—Reuter.

Herr Schmidt angered at fish dispute deadlock

Continued from page 1

But agreement is blocked by a dispute between France and Britain over the access of French trawlers to British inshore waters, on which local fishermen are especially dependent.

Mrs Thatcher declared: "*Our fishermen must have the* certainty and confidence which a fisheries policy as a whole will give them." The accord with Canada "could not possibly have been agreed to by us in isolation", she added.

Herr Schmidt commented bitterly after the meeting that *he felt "deceived and dis*appointed" by the EEC's failure to put a new fisheries policy into effect by the end of last year. This deadline was endorsed by Britain as part of last May's package deal on its budget contributions.

"*The Federal Republic* agreed to a financial deal which caused enormous difficulties and higher taxation in Germany", Herr Schmidt declared in aggrieved tones. "I was deceived and disappointed. There is no point in such an agreement if one side does not stick to it."

During the summit discussion Mrs Thatcher firmly rejected the accusation that Britain was the cause of the failure to meet the end-of-year deadline. The British view is that agreement was nearly reached last December and prevented only by French intransigence.

Mrs Thatcher apparently took the initiative in calling for this Friday's meeting of agriculture and fisheries ministers, who had not been due to meet until some 10 days later.

President Giscard d'Estaing *of France left most of the* sparring with Mrs Thatcher on fish to the German Chancellor. He expressed confidence that an agreement could be reached on Friday but said firmly that France would "not renounce its traditional rights".

This was taken to be a reference to the so-called "historic rights" of French fishermen within 12 miles of the British coast, particularly off Cornwall, which Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, would like to see reduced.

The heads of government also called on their agriculture ministers to reach agreement on this year's EEC farm price package by April 1. The chances of doing so seemed to have been improved by an adjustment of "green rates" an*nounced in Brussels today.*

The European Commission was urged by the EEC leaders to submit its promised proposals for reform of the EEC's budget system in time for discussion at their next summit meeting on June 30.

Briton jailed for murder of young Dutch girl

Arnhem, March 24.—A Dutch court today jailed Geoffrey Allen Powell, aged 23, of Manchester, for 12 years for murdering a Dutch girl. Mr Powell, who was considered to be of diminished responsibility, was ordered to undergo indefinite psychiatric treatment.

He was also charged with the attempted rape of Karin Nathans, aged 12, found dead in marshes near the Rhine last August 1. Mr Jan Kopp, for the prosecution, said Mr Powell was jailed for five years in England *in 1975 for attempted rape and* served four years.

Mr Powell admitted strangling Karin Nathans with her belt, but claimed he had not meant to kill her: "I only wanted to stop her screaming", he said.—Reuter.

German police search houses of neo-Nazis

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 24

Police today searched about 450 homes in one of the biggest nationwide operations against neo-Nazi activities in West German history.

They seized large quantities of Nazi propaganda and anti-Semitic publications which had been printed in the United States and Canada and either smuggled or mailed into West Germany.

They made no arrests but those found in possession of large quantities face charges of spreading Nazi propaganda and racial incitement, which are punished by maximum jail terms of three and five years respectively.

The simultaneous raids followed investigations by the Stuttgart public prosecutor's office into the alleged activities of two German-Americans, Mr Garry Lauck, aged 28 and Mr Georg Dietz, aged 41, and a German Canadian, Mr Ernst C. *F. Zündel.*

They are alleged to be partly responsible for what a security service official described as "floods" of pamphlets, brochures, stickers, records and tape-recordings which have been shipped into West Germany to the concern of the authorities.

The propaganda, often adorned with swastikas, proclaims that "Hitler lives", that the evidence of the exterm*ination of six million jews is a* "lie", that the Nazi revolution will come and that Jewry must be fought "to the death".

Mr Lauck of Lincoln, Nebraska, is the leader of the Nazi Overseas and Reconstruction Organization and publisher *of a newspaper called the NS Kampfruf* (Nazi call to battle). Expelled from West Germany in the mid-70s he returned illegally in 1975 and was given a six months suspended sentence for spreading 20,000 stickers saying "Don't buy from Jews".

Mr Dietz of Reedy, West Virginia specializes in an anti-Semitic material printed by his firm, White Power Publications: Mr Zündel of Toronto, who claims to be head of a Zündel Combat Group is known for publications and tape recordings claiming that the film *Holocaust* was a lie.

A Stuttgart police spokesman said that 70 per cent of those whose homes were searched in Baden-Württemberg were more than 50 years old, but by no means all were "old Nazis".

M Marchais is accused of two-faced tactics

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 24

M Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, keeps on proclaiming that he is the only real "anti-Giscard" candidate *in the lists. But last night, in* his first television performance since the beginning of February, he proved that he was much more effective as an "anti-Mitterrand" candidate.

He presented the Socialist candidate with nothing short of an ultimatum: M François Mitterrand would not have Communist support if he did not take Communist ministers into any government he might form —which is another way of ensuring that he is not. To drive the point home, M Marchais threatened to stage strikes and demonstrations to ensure that a left-wing government adopted a policy of real change and prevent it from coming to terms with the right.

Both threats were designed to undermine the Socialist leader's tactics of appealing for the votes of the Communist rank and file—on the ground that he alone has a chance of defeating M Giscard d'Estaing —and for those of the centre, by insisting that, if he won, he would not appoint Communist Ministers.

No wonder M Georges Sarre, one of the left-wing Socialist leaders, described M Marchais as a Janus-like figure; one face was of the anti-Giscard candidate, the other of an "inspirer of a sacred union against François Mitterrand."

Last night's was not one of M Marchais' best performances on television. He was nervous, aggressive, and talked as if he were addressing a *public* meeting, not a panel of jour*nalists.*



French Presidential Election

It was obvious that the key passage of the broadcast had been thoroughly discussed by the party leadership.

On the assumption that M. Giscard d'Estaing and M Mitterrand were left face to face in the second round, he said he would certainly not choose the first and he did not wish to call for abstention.

But voting for the Socialist leader "raised a serious problem . . . The real danger is to see François Mitterrand, if *he has a free hand, govern* with the right to pursue and aggravate the present policies."

The only way to prevent this and bring pressure to bear on him, was to ensure that the Communists had a substantial vote in the first ballot.

Britain in storm over remains of General Sikorsky

By Our Foreign Staff

The British Home Secretary will have to decide whether the remains of General Wladyslaw Sikorski, leader of the Polish government in exile in Britain after 1939, can return to Poland.

Poles in Britain are angry about reported moves by the Polish Government to obtain the remains of the wartime general, killed in an air crash in 1943. He is buried along with many of his countrymen in the Polish war cemetery at Newark, *Nottinghamshire.*

The Polish news agency PAP stated yesterday that General Sikorski's remains were to return to Poland. British officials say no such request has been received.

In May, thousands of Poles *are erpected to* make a pilgrimage to Newark to celebrate the centenary of the general's birth. Along with thousands of his countrymen, General Sikorski served with the British forces, and many Polish servicemen were stationed at Royal Air Force bases in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire. Polish ex-servicemen living in Britain say they object to the remains being sent back to Poland because the country is under Soviet influence and still not a free nation.

French authorities act swiftly to contain foot and mouth outbreak

Emergency for farmers in the valley of the pigs

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 24

Early on Sunday, March 1, the farmer's wife on a small pig farm in northern Brittany checked on the new litters of piglets which the previous evening had seemed normal.

To her horror she found what looked like a slaughter. Eleven piglets lay about a sty, crumpled and broken as though they had been thrown about by a sadistic killer. Their stomachs looked blue and swollen, and when she checked further the wife found several of the sows had pustules on their teats and their snouts looked as though they had been dipped in boiling water.

The local veterinary surgeon was called out immediately and he diagnosed swine fever, but as a precaution he sent the *carcasses for testing.* The following Thursday he told the farmer that his piglets had died from a comparatively rare virus strain of foot and mouth disease.

As a precaution, and even before the final results of the tests were known, the small farm had been isolated. Following normal procedure, the veterinary surgeon had notified the prefecture in Saint Brieuc and, as soon as the outbreak was confirmed, the whole area was cut off by a sanitary cordon.

The farm is in an area with the densest population of pigs in Europe. The local farmers run their own cooperative, which claims to have the largest abattoir of its kind in Europe, *handling 800,000 pigs a year.* Not surprisingly, the region centred on Lamballe is known as "*the valley of the pigs*".

Nevertheless, foot and mouth disease has not occurred in the area since 1974, and even then the valley itself largely escaped. When the confirmation of the outbreak came through on March 5, the local breeders were shocked and mystified.

The only recent outbreak this type of virus in Europe had been in Austria, over 600 miles away. There had been no outbreak in France since 1976 in Normandy.

As each case was confirmed, all the animals on the farm involved were destroyed as required by law. The farmers, particularly those who also raised cattle, were so upset that it was agreed locally not to release their names in order to protect them from the press.

At the same time as the sanitary cordon was instituted, in a six-mile radius an extensive programme began to vaccinate *571,650 animals*—a precaution which may have paid dividends, since one case subsequently came to light in a neighbouring farm.

All the local veterinary surgeons were mobilized and 50 Army vets were sent in to help. Working in teams, they finished the huge task in four days.

Adequate stocks of vaccine were available because France instituted compulsory vaccination for all cattle in 1962, on the ground that France—unlike Britain—has huge land frontiers which cannot be closed against the disease. Equally, the size of the French herd—nearly 25 million—is too large to vaccinate in an emergency.

The 1962 regulation excluded pigs because their average lifespan is too short to warrant the expense of vaccinations. All cattle over six months old, however, have to be vaccinated and have to be given an annual booster. Since 1972 the state has ended its subsidy for this, and the full cost has to be paid by the farmer.

Some rebel farmers defied the law rather than have their herds vaccinated because, they claim, the vaccination can be dangerous and it generally benefits only the drug companies.

The Brittany foot and mouth outbreak established itself in the unprotected pig herds and emergency vaccination therefore was carried out on them to limit the spread of the disease.

The vaccine used should provide immunity after 10 days. To be quite sure, however, the regulations insist that the sanitary cordon must be kept in place for 15 days after the last outbreak inside the isolated area. After that, two months have to elapse before a farm which has been infected *can be restocked.*

Apart from the strict limitations on the movement of livestock in the area, there are further limitations on what can be done with the meat from the Lamballe Abattoir. Each carcass is now stamped with a *special round seal, which* means it cannot be exported and must be used solely for domestic consumption.

This has caused the price of pork—already severely depressed—to fall further by 40 centimes (about 3½p) a kilogramme. *The French Govern*ment has agreed to help the farmers in the area by guaranteeing them a basic minimum price

An extraordinary night at the Opéra in Paris

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 24

There was no uproar, and Chagall's ceiling did not collapse on the auditorium at yesterday's first night of the controversial opera *La Grand Macabre*, by the Hungarian composer Georgy Ligeti—not *even when an aging Venus* descended from the heaves without any veils and escorted by *six* equally naked Graces.

Gounod, Berlioz and Massenet must have turned in their graves. It took far less to provoke boos and catcalls at the opening night of Verdi's *Masked Ball* some weeks ago.

The only incident was provoked by the composer himself who, in the middle of the second act, stood up and demanded in vain that a loudspeaker, which was booming intolerably, should be switched off. The technician was *unable* to oblige, and the audience, unaware of the iterrupter's identity, told him to shut up. The confusion increased until Mr Ligeti at the height of exasperation left in a huff, after telling the dazzling concourse who he was.

When the curtain finally fell, the singers received a standing ovation which lasted more than ten minutes. But M Ligeti was not there to enjoy his triumph.

He told someone who tried to *persuade him to stay on that* he could not care less about it. What he wanted was to hear his music.

The audience thought for a moment it was just another of the many gags with which this opera is constellated.

At the very start for instance, the *burlesque* and *macabre* tone of the work is set when the real conductor cuts the throat of a fake who had usurped his place.

But the music critic of Le Monde *suggests* that M Ligeti may have invented this "happening" to avoid taking his bow at the end, because he was in absolute disagreement with the way in which his opera has been staged by Daniel Mesguich. The producer, he said, had not respected his libretto, and had distorted its meaning.

"*I am not concerned with the libretto,*" M Mesguich declared in an interview recently, "or with the work of Ghelderode; I have staged the music very exactly. The libretto is frankly bad, old and vulgar, with its sado-masochistic scenes, its bowls and its foul language. It is only latter-day Araballa."

The audience listened to the vulgarity without turning a hair.

King of Spain urges 'offensive' to halt wave of ETA violence

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 24

Speaking to senior Spanish Army, Navy and Air Force officers here today, King Juan Carlos declared that, after last week's increase in terrorist violence, "it is necessary to act with decisiveness, passing from a posture of patient defence to an energetic offensive".

The king's words came as an endorsement of last night's decision by the inner Cabinet of the Government of Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo to use armed forces units for the first time in the fight against ETA, the Basque terrorist organization.

The king, addressing the superior councils of the three armed forces, assembled for the first time since 1976 told the officers he understood their reaction to the fact that Basque terrorists made senior Army officers their preferred target, as happened twice last week.

But he also set clear limits to the growing influence of the armed forces on the civilian Government, to which Señor Calvo Sotelo at present appears to be submitting. He repeated his pleas to the armed forces to "reflect profoundly" on last month's failed military coup and the "tragic results" it might have had.

The king, speaking in the presence of the Prime Minister, went on: "But do not let us forget that these tragic results could also come from a slow process of decomposition, lack of authority, or a gradual overstepping of constitutional norms."

He urged the officers to fulfil the laws of the country and uphold its institutions.

The king was even more outspoken when tackling the difficult problem that the armed forces face in finding adequate means with which to communicate their feelings to the rest of society.

"I do not mean, and this must be completely clear, that there is a need for establishing a military influence which presses on national political activities", he said, "but rather the reverse, so that national political activities are not obsessed by military influence after the grave events of February 23." What was important was that, like other forces in society, their sentiments could be known and properly evaluated.

A single unified anti-terrorist command is to be set up in the next few days, the inner Cabinet announced last night, with the armed forces represented alongside the state security forces, the national police, and the Civil Guard, whose senior officers are also from the armed forces.

Señor Juan Rosón, the Interior Minister, is expected to take charge of the 10-man body but all decisions will be taken unanimously, according to informed sources.

Most of the units are expected to come from the six military regional commands based on Burgos, which covers the Basque region of northern Spain. But specialized units may be drawn from other parts of the country.

The Army units will be used to assist the civilian police and the paramilitary Civil Guard in keeping a watch along Spain's northern frontier and in intelligence activities which are now to be coordinated throughout the Basque region.

The Basque autonomous regional government, making its first comment today, argued that last night's move did not need to affect individual rights or the powers of the regional government".

Señor Calvo Sotelo was meeting the Army Council this afternoon. He is also due to see Señor Carlos Garaikoechea, Chief Minister of the Basque regional government, here tomorrow.

In the past few days, the police have arrested 18 suspected members of ETA in the Navarre region, scene of one of last week's killings, and in the Basque country 20 suspects were arrested early today.

The steering committee of the Chamber of Deputies today agreed to a Government request to try to get legislation on terrorism and incitement to rebellion through Parliament next week.



This painting of the Crucifixion was valued at £45,000.

Salvador Dali work hung unnoticed in jail canteen

New York, March 24.—A canteen at a city prison has not only been disking out meals, but, for the last 16 years, a cultural diet as well. A Salvador Dali painting donated by the artist in 1965 hangs on a wall.

At least it did until its authenticity was discovered. It is now in the executive offices of the Corrections Department for safekeeping.

The 5ft by 4ft painting of the Crucifixion has been the subject of investigation over the past two weeks after a warden at the Rikers Island prison called in a Manhattan art dealer who authenticated the piece and valued it at up to $100,000 (about £45,000).

The origins and value of the work, given after Dali had visited the jail, has been obscureda nd forgotten with the change in wardens and guards over the years.

But prison officials, attempting to trace the history of the piece, said that if a second valuation supported the first, the Corrections Department would like to ask the artist for permission to sell the work.

"We're very short of funds now and, if Mr Dali agrees, we'd like to sell the painting and use the money to set up an inmates' art programme", Mr Edward Hershey, a department spokesman, said.

The painting is signed by Dali with the inscription: "For the dining room of the prisoners of Rikers Island".—AP.

Likud begins West Bank settlements coach tours

From Christopher Walker
Ariel, March 24

In one of the most controversial electioneering exercises devised in Israel, more than 300,000 voters—nearly one-tenth of the population—ere to be taken on subsidized coach tours of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank before polling day on June 30.

The scheme is being financed by the election committee of the ruling right-wing Likud coalition. The coalition Government has since 1977 increased the number of West Bank settlements by more than 40, and pledges to have another 10 fully operational before voting.

Likud campaign managers believe the opposition Labour Party is vulnerable on the settlement issue because of deep internal divisions between "hawks" and "doves". It is also hoped that the tours will strengthen national resistance to any suggestion that the settlements should be dismantled.

The chief architect of the scheme is Mr Ariel Sharon, the Minister of Agriculture and former general, who sees the new settlements as one of the Government's main electoral assets.

Mr Sharon said today: "It is important for Israel to see for themselves a complex problem which will become the most controversial issue between us and both Europe and America. People will see the importance of the territory and they will see the Government has met its promises—we have been working hard here for fuor years."

Striding up the rocky hillside that will form a central part of the tour, Mr Sharon added: "It is better for Israelis to have the issue explained climbing these hills than sitting in some warm living room, eating little sandwiches. They will see that these settlements are vital to Israel's existence and our security."

Among other places, voters will be shown ariel, a settlement town intended to have a population of 50,000 Jews by the turn of the century. Land expropriated from Arabs is being turned into an industrial area and 60 concrete houses have been completed recently.

Mr Sharon seems uncon cerned by international condemnation. "Returning to Samaria is not a dream for us, it is a right. The Arabs have a right to be here and so do we," he said. "We have no intention of stopping expanding the 85 settlements which will be in place by the end of June."

Reporters conducted on a preview of the route discovered today that the tours have already begun. One couple travelling in a convoy of 11 coaches told me that they had paid the equivalent of 10p each for the 200-mile trip.

Three killed in second militia raid on village

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, March 24

The small and poverty-ridden Shia Muslim village of At Tiri was attacked again last night, and once more United Nations troops were unable to prevent gunmen from dynamiting a house near the main street, killing three of the occupants.

Scarcely a month ago the home of the village Mukhtar in the south Lebanese village was also destroyed in an explosion set off by militiamen of Major Saad Haddad.

According to the provincial authorities in Sidon this morning, it was again a gang of Major Haddad's men who entered the hamlet last night, blowing up the second house and killing three people inside—believed to be children—and injuring six others.

At Tiri lies on the southern edge of the United Nations operational area in the zone controlled by Irish troops, and for six months Major Haddad has been threatening the occupants of the village.

According to his Israeli-supported militia, Palestinian guerrillas have infiltrated the area and Major Haddad has warned the villagers to expel known leftists. On numerous occasions the United Nations has promised to protect the people of At Tiri, but their soldiers have been singularly ineffective in preventing bombing attacks both there and in the neighbouring village of Bradchit.

Less than a week ago Major-General William Callaghan, the new United Nations Force commander in Lebanon, asked the Israelis to exercise greater control over Major Haddad's men, but his appeal seems to have had little effect.

Last year, when the militias tried to enter At Tiri, Irish troops drove them out, killing two of Major Haddad's gunmen in the process. It was that incident that led to the murder of two Irish troops in the United Nations contingent, allegedly shot dead in a "blood feud".

Soldier dies: A Nigerian United Nations soldier died in an Israeli hospital today of wounds received when Lebanese Christian right-wing militia bombarded a United Nations position in the village of Kantara on March 16, United Nations sources said. None of the remaining 19 wounded was in any danger.

Two Nigerian soldiers serving with the interim force in Lebanon (Unifil) were killed in the incident.

So far, 61 United Nations soldiers have died since the force was established nearly three years ago.—Reuter.

Lebanon presses for united strategy against Israel

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, March 24

With the continuing violence in southern Lebanon and the lack of sufficient international help to solve its six-year-old crisis, Lebanon is pressing the Arab League to convince a meeting of the Arab states bordering Israel.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) would be invited but not Egypt, and the aim would be to agree on a common strategy to deal with the repeated Israeli attacks on Lebanese territory.

The request was made in a note from Mr Fuad Butros, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, to Mr Chadli Klibi, Secretary-General of the Arab League, which has been meeting in Tunis at Foreign Minister level.

In his note, Mr Butros urged the League's Secretary-General to make an effort to carry out a resolution adopted at the recent Islamic summit in Taif, Saudi Arabia, calling on the "Arab parties concerned" to lay down a comprehensive strategy which would clearly define each country's responsibility in hte common struggle against Israel.

"Lebanon has been suffering enormously from the present state of affairs and looks forward to measures for the practical application" of the resolution, Mr Butros said in his not released today.

In a controversial speech at the Islamic summit last January, President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon, underlined the seriousness of the troubled situation in southern Lebanon and called for restrictions on the Palestinian armed presence there as a way to deter Israeli attacks.

This is the first time the Lebanese Government has asked for a meeting of the Arab countries bordering Israel to discuss a common strategy. The Lebanese argument is that it is unfair to keep southern Lebanon an active battlefield while all is quiet on the other Arab fronts facing Israel.

Lebanon's request for Syrian and Jordanian participation in the drafting of a common strategy is designed to ensure constraints on the Palestinian guerrilla movement, which has a substantial presence in southern Lebanon.

It is difficult to see, however, how the Arab League Secretary-General could bring the parties concerned together when relations between Syria and Jordan are at their lowest ebb and the PLO continues to insist on its "right" to pursue the "armed struggle" against Israel

Newspaper museum opened nea Paris

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 24

This year is the three dred and fiftieth anniversa the first French newsp the *Gazette* of Théopl Renaudot, and the hund anniversary of the law o freedom of the press.

It seems appropriate, fore, that it should be c to mark the opening of a annex of the Bibliot Nationale, the Centre fo Conservation and Reprodu of the Press, in the hi fortified town of Provins of Paris. It bears the na André François-Poncet, mat and journalist, and of the town.

The centre is housed restored convent, the Co des Cordelières, founde 1248 by Thibaut, Cour *Champagne*, on the Mon Cathérine, just outside th medieval upper town.

The convent suffered from war and pillage th the ages and became a ho under Louis XIV. It endu much the worse for wear old people's home in present century, but vacated in 1974 when a home was built.

Restoration work bega 1979 and is not yet compl But 36,500 sq ft of floor are already available, inclu the thirteenth-century ch house. The chapel of the vent has yet to be renova

The cost, which amour 15m Francs (£1.36m), borne by the state, the r the town and, for a small by the National Press Fe tion.

The inauguration cere on Monday was attende three ministers, includin Alain Peyrefitte, the Mi of Justice and mayor of *vins; Mme Saunier-Seité*, Minister for Universities; M Jean François-Poncet, *Minister for Foreign A* and son of the fo Ambassador who died in 19

Every year the centre receive about 30,000 copi newspapers and magazines million and a half page newsprint.

The accommodation ava at the Bibliothèque Nati and its annex at Vers, opened in 1934, is no l adequate.

For a start, the centre house 10,000 copies of hi newspapers now at Versa including the *Gazette* of the first Paris daily, *Le Jo de Paris* of 1777; *L'Am Peuple* of 1791, Marat's paper; *Le Vieux Cordeli* 1793; *Le Moniteur Univers* 1809; *Le Constitutionne* 1829; and *La Rue* of Valles, to mention only a f

Three microfilms will made of each daily newsp *one for preservation, one* reproduction and one for sultation. They will be ke air-conditioned rooms.

The most difficult task i conservation of the ori copies. Owing to the poor lity of newsprint, which h high acid content, it ye very rapidly if exposed to splits at the fold and fal pieces in the long run, Therèse Kleindienst, the s tary-general of the Biblioth Nationale, explained. They be treated in a special la tory which will be opened year.

Four sentenced to death for Mauritania co

Nouakchott, March 2 Four Mauritanian offi accused of taking part i failed coup here eight days *were sentenced to death b* special court today.

They were Lieuten Colonel Ahmed Salem C Sidi and Lieutenant-Colo Abdelkader Ould Bah, said be the coup leaders, Lieuter Niang Mustafa and Lieuter Doudou Seck. Five non-c missioned officers were tenced to hard labour for l

President Muhammad Kho Ould Haidalla has 24 hours which he can commute death sentences.

The two senior officers w reported to have lived recen in Morocco, where they led alliance of groups opposed the Nouakchott Government.

Mauritania has accu Morocco of inspiring attempted coup and seve diplomatic relations with Ra last week. Morocco has den any involvement.—Reuter.

Condemnation of Freemasonry is seen as move to assert Vatican's authority

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 24

An authoritative attempt has been made to explain the mystery of why the Vatican has suddenly and formally restated its hostility so Freemasonry.

Father Giovanni Caprile, writing in the Jesuit periodical *Civiltà Cattolica*, lists many of the reasons that have been wrongly given for the Vatican's move. The idea of a new condemnation of Freemasonry had been seen, he said, variously as a manoeuvre by conservative thinkers to halt ecumenical dialogue with Protestants, whose countries had many Masons; an example of the return to more radical positions intended to put an end to the accommodating attitudes of Pope Paul VI's reign; a brake on certain episcopal conferences; and a veto on individual efforts being made at dialogue.

No doubt modesty prevented Father Caprile from adding to this list the fact that his own writings had been interpreted as a sign of a more open attitude towards a foe first condemned by the Roman Catholic Church in 1738, only 26 years after Freemasonry officially began.

The somewhat puzzling document was published on March 2 at noon without comment. It came in the form of a "declaration" by the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the former Holy Office. In this document it was pointed out that the Congregation had written a confidential letter in July, 1974, to a number of bishops' conferences containing an interpretation of the Canon (2335) which lays down excommunication as the punishment incurred by Catholics who join the Masons.

That letter, addressed to about 20 conferences, did not remain confidential. It pointed out that consultation with bishops in countries where the question was important had brought out such a diversity of views that Rome had decided to abide by the present legislation until the revision of the whole of canon law was complete.

News analysis

The 1974 letter made clear that the sanctions of Canon 2335 were directed against Catholics belonging to associations actually engaged in conspiring against the church.

This letter, according to the declaration of March 2, had become public knowledge and resulted in mistaken and tendentious interpretations. The declaration was intended to correct these errors, and insisted on three main points.

First, canon law had not been modified on the issue and remained in force. Second, excommunication and other penalties prescribed for Catholics who become Freemasons had not been abrogated. Third, the declaration attempted to define the limits of the field in which bishops could act on their own responsibility regarding the question of Freemasonry and, by implication, other subjects.

In recent years there have been some attempts to look in a more dispassionate way at the Freemasons.

The West German bishops have been engaged in a long study of Freemasonry. They issued a document in April, 1980, which described this effort and gave their conclusions.

The conclusions were totally bleak. "In-depth research on the ritual and on the Masonic mentality makes it clear that it is impossible to belong to the Catholic church and to Freemasonry at the same time."

Probably the German inquiry was of a type to upset Rome. Individual conferences, bishops, and scholars were taking into consideration the whole significance of the issue. But this overall view must remain the prerogative of Rome.

The declaration makes very clear that the 1974 letter left local bishops free to decide on individual cases, but there was no intention to allow episcopal conferences "to pronounce publicly with a verdict of a general character on the nature of Masonic associations".

Father Caprile himself sees the declaration as a cautionary measure "suggested by the very different conditions existing from one country to another, inspired by the need for a certain uniformity in pastoral conduct so as not to disorientate the faithful, and by the need for a certain harmony which only those who have before them a global vision of the entire church can assure."

In other words, Rome still decides on an issue as large as Freemasonry.

Libyan influence grows in war-shattered Chad

Ndjamena, March 24.—There is no water supply and no post office or telephone service in Chad, electricity functions only for 12 hours a day, the Central Bank is closed and the Government is broke.

But Chad, ravaged by a devastating nine-month civil war which ended last December after a controversial Libyan intervention, is trying hard to dig itself out of the ruins.

Plagued by drought and one of the poorest countries in the world, Chad is now even more impoverished and the work of reconstruction will be enormous. The unhealed wounds of battles between the warring factions can be seen everywhere.

The control tower at the airport has been hit many times by light artillery, but miraculously it is still standing and working.

The main airport terminal is a complete wreck, with no roof, girders twisting crazily, and a main staircase leading nowhere. Immigration officials handling the few aircraft that arrive here work at charred desks surrounded by fire-blackened walls.

Along the road to the city centre, vendors sell petrol in big bottles because the petrol stations are all closed. They have brought the petrol across the Shari river in pirogues from the Cameron town of Mousseri.

Nothing is left of the cathedral except its striking, arched façade with a giant cross surrounded by bullet holes. The rest is rubble, the result of a direct hit.

The barracks of the National Guard, the Palace of Justice and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications all appear to have been gutted and abandoned. The rectory of the University of Chad is an empty shell. The American Embassy and thousands of homes, businesses, and restaurants are in ruins.

It will take vast effort and money to bring this capital back to life with any degree of efficiency. But, despite every thing, Ndjamena does function within severe limits.

At the Hotel La Chadienne, *Mr Noel Dallo, the head waiter*, proudly shows the shell-hole in his plates cabinet and the bullet-pocked ceiling, but his dining room functions well with a limited menu and serves an excellent local beer which managed to survive the civil war.

The hotel resumed operating after the civil war ended with help from Libya, which provided sheets, towels and curtains, Chad officials said. Another sign of life here is the local market, which is bustling although supplies are limited.

The economy is paralysed, however, because the Central Bank is closed. Local businessmen and private banks are waiting for it to reopen before making any further moves themselves. In the meantime, there is an acute shortage of currency in circulation.

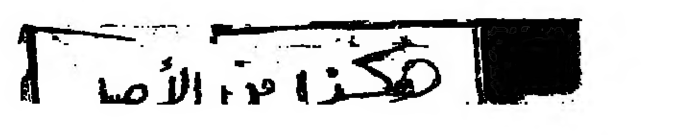
Chad's French-backed CFA francs, used here and elsewhere in French-speaking Africa, are being spent importing essential supplies from Kousseri. This has meant that the Libyan *dinar, now circulating here*, is assuming increasing importance as a means of trading.

Chad's few factories, life-blood of the country, w smashed as well during fighting. "I used to have a f tory making small metal mi for grinding flour", one bu nessman said. "It is finish but I cannot import the equi ment I need to start again."

The Government has not p its employees for months b cause it has no funds and the are reports that Libya h offered to pay all Chad st employees for six months.

Without Western aid, the fluence of Libya is certain grow here. Libyan soldiers c be seen frequently Ndjamena but they are u obtrusive and do not appe to be in command of the si ation. The running of th capital appears to be in th hands of the Chadians.

The Libyan presence appea to be a force for stability b many Chadians, who recogni the value of the Libyan assis ance, wonder what will happe when the Chad Governmen decides that the Libyan pre ence is no longer required.—Reuter.



Differences over Greek-Turkish arms balance hamper Athens negotiations on US bases

From Mario Modiano
Athens, March 24

American and Greek negotiators in the Athens talks on the future status of United States military bases in Greece are digging in their heels, although the talks have been accelerated to meet the Easter deadline set by the Greek Government.

With the negotiations entering their third month, the diplomatic and military teams meet daily. However, important divergences remain on the actual status of the bases, as well as on the extent and nature of the military aid Greece is to receive in return.

The Greek Government has told the Americans that the new agreement must be signed in time for ratification by Parliament before the Orthodox Easter recess in four weeks. Otherwise the talks would have to be postponed until after the general election which is due in the autumn.

Evidently, the Government does not wish to turn the controversial question of the United States military presence in Greece into an electoral issue.

The Greek timetable brings pressure to bear on the United States Government to show greater flexibility or take the risk of having to negotiate later, perhaps with an unsympathetic left-wing government.

So far the American negotiators are unwilling to give ground in the face of this potential threat, arguing that they also have some non-negotiable positions.

The crucial issue is the extent of the United States military support for Greece. The Americans seem willing to exercize their "best efforts" to secure what is known as Greece's "wish list" of military equipment. They refuse, however, to be tied down to a specific list or to peg it to Turkey's list to maintain a fixed ratio of aid to both countries.

The Greek Government is pressing for a formal American commitment to a seven-to-10 ratio (in Turkey's favour) on the ground that this would preserve the balance of power in the Aegean.

The Reagan Administration told Congress this week that it did not believe that aid should be determined by precise ratios, although it had no objection to an increase of United States military credits to Greece from $260m (£118m) to $280m to keep a seven-to-10 ratio to Turkey's $400m.

There are chances that this hurdle will be overcome by some American assurance in favour of a military balance between the countries in the region, "including between Greece and Turkey". This is a formula already accepted by Congress, and it sets the Greek-Turkish arms race within the broader context of an East-West military equilibrium.

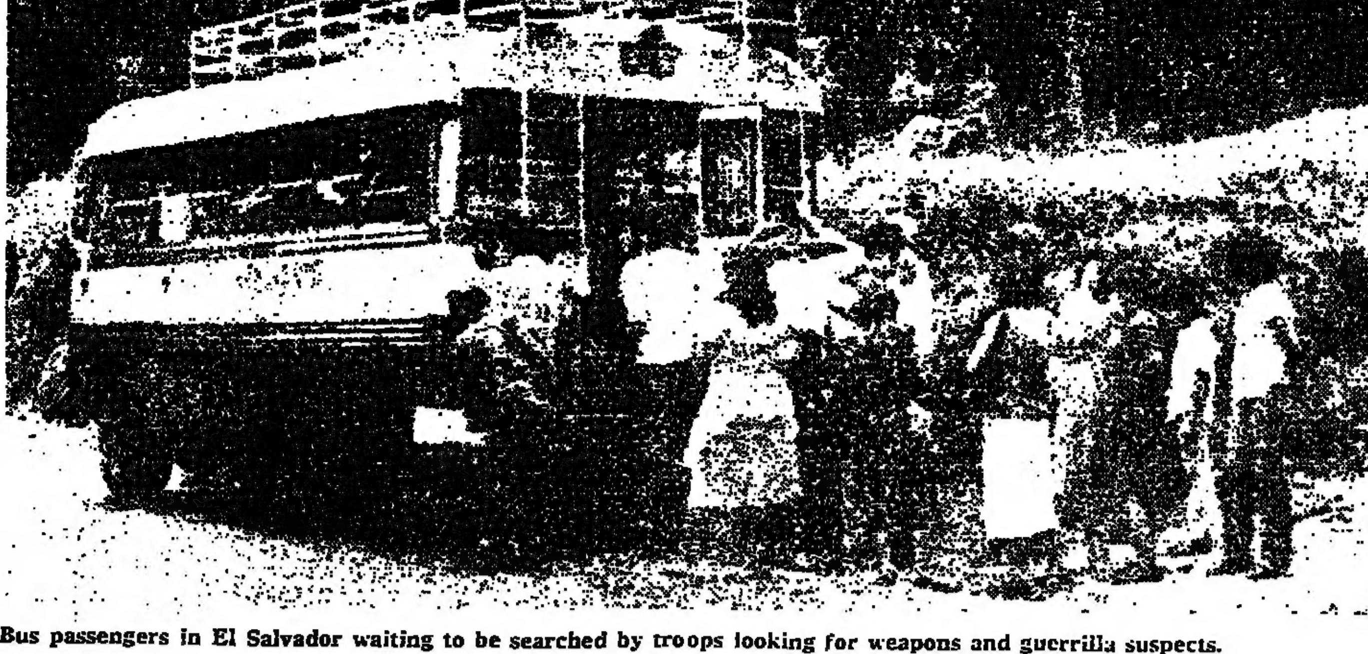
The issue may require some political decisions on a higher level. A visit to Athens by Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, should not be ruled out.

Once the problem of balance is resolved, there is bound to be less reluctance to broach such topics as command and control of the bases. The Americans agree that the military installations should be placed under a Greek commander, whose presence should, however, in no way interfere with the normal chain of command of the United States forces stationed at the base.

The Greek side wants the Greek commander to have effective control of all activities in these installations, in order to safeguard Greek sovereignty and ensure that the bases are not involved in non-Nato operations.

The Greeks insist on a formula that would limit the use of the bases to "obligations arising out of the North Atlantic Treaty", as stipulated also in the United States-Turkish agreement. The Americans would prefer a more flexible definition allowing the bases to be used "for operations serving mutual defence interests".

This is important in view of American plans for a Rapid Deployment Force for eventual use in The Gulf, in which case the bases in Greece would acquire particular relevance.



Bus passengers in El Salvador waiting to be searched by troops looking for weapons and guerrilla suspects.

Another $63.5m American aid for El Salvador

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 24

The United States announced today that it will provide El Salvador with an additional $63.5m (£28m) of economic assistance to help the tiny Central American republic cope with urgent problems caused by the continuing civil war between government forces and leftist guerillas.

A State Department spokesman in Washington said that the additional aid would bring to some $125.5m the total amount of economic help given to El Salvador during the current financial year.

24-hour truce: El Salvador's main left-wing guerrilla group announced a halt to all attacks today in memory of the killing of the Archbishop of San Salvador, Mgr Oscar Romero, a year ago (Reuter reports from San Salvador).

A clandestine radio broadcast by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Movement (FMLN), the biggest of El Salvador's several guerrilla groups, said it would not launch any attacks for 24 hours from midnight last night.

The broadcast came after an army statement that troops had been placed on the highest state of alert to counter the possibility of increased guerrilla attacks. There was no immediate Army comment on the FMLN announcement.

Pakistan to deport six Western mercenaries

From Trevor Fishlock
Peshawar, March 24

The Pakistani Government tonight issued orders for the arrest and deportation of six men who apparently arrived here to offer their services as mercenaries on the side of the Afghan resistance.

A government statement said the decision to expel the men was "in conformity with the policy of the Government that it will not act as a conduit for arms and men".

The presence of the six men in the North-West Frontier Province was disclosed at the weekend after three of them talked to reporters in Islamabad about their hopes of joining guerrilla bands fighting against Soviet and Afghan forces.

Two of the biggest of the resistance groups based in Peshawar made it clear they wanted nothing to do with mercenaries.

The presence of the men, five Britons and an American, is an embarrassment to the Pakistanis, the Americans and the British, who are acutely aware of their propaganda value to the Russians and the Kabul Government.

Some of the men have been staying at hotels in Peshawar, trying to make contact with resistance groups.

$500m aid: As part of its continuing campaign to bolster its allies in South-West Asia against possible Soviet aggression, the United States has decided to offer Pakistan some $500m (£227m) of military and economic aid for next year (David Cross writes from Washington).

This is more than twice the annual assistance offered by President Carter to the Pakistani Government a year ago. Washington's last offer of about $400m over a two-year period was rejected by President Zia ul-Haq as "peanuts". It is not yet clear here what the fate of the proposed package will be.

Administration officials said that Pakistan was being offered about $400m of weapons sales credits and some $100m of economic aid during the next fiscal year which begins this autumn.

Right angry at S African election ban

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, March 24

The disqualification of five candidates of the extreme right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) from South Africa's general election on April 29 was described today as undemocratic by a leader of the anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party (PFP).

Under new electoral laws, candidates of parties not represented in Parliament must submit petitions bearing signatures of 300 registered voters with their nominations.

Nomination courts which sat yesterday ruled out the candidature of five HNP candidates. The HNP, which is mounting its biggest effort to win a seat in Parliament, is to challenge the decisions in court tomorrow.

Mr Brian Bamford, chief whip of the official opposition PEP and an election candidate, has attacked the new 300-signature law. It was introduced by Dr Connie Mulder, former Minister of Information and the Interior, who is fighting to regain a seat in Parliament as leader of the National Conservative Party (NCP).

Mr Bamford said the new system was undemocratic and discriminatory and contradicted the principles of the secret ballot by disclosing the affiliations of voters.

The HNP is particularly concerned about the disqualification of its candidate for the Transvaal constituency of Rustenburg where Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, was heckled loudly last week until plainclothes police moved in to stop disturbances.

Blacks fear Reagan tilt to Pretoria

From David Cross
Washington, March 24

Embarrassed officials at the State Department here are trying to find out why a highly controversial encounter between Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the American representative at the United Nations, and South Africa's leading military intelligence officer has just come to their attention more than a week after it took place.

The disclosure of the encounter, which was originally denied by a State Department spokesman, has upset black African governments, who have long feared a tilt by President Reagan towards Pretoria. American government policy since 1963, when the United States banned arms sales to South Africa, has been to forbid consultations on military relations between the two countries.

When news of the visit to the United States by Lieutenant-General P. Van Der Westerhuizen, the head of South Africa's military intelligence, first became public last week, the State Department claimed that he and four compatriots had met only relatively junior American government officials.

In any case, the spokesman said last week, the South Africans had returned home when the State Department discovered their real identity. Yesterday, however, the same spokesman was forced to admit that he had been wrong in denying any high-level meeting involving the South Africans. He said the State Department was looking into the confusion.

The embarrassment felt by the State Department about the whole visit is deeper than it might otherwise have been because the new Administration is in the midst of working out its policy towards problems in southern Africa. It had already upset black African governments by allowing a delegation of pro-South African delegates from Namibia to visit Washington for talks with prominent right-wing Senators like Mr Jesse Helms, of North Carolina, and Mr Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina.

The Namibia delegation was led by Mr Dirk Mudge, head of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance. He also met Mrs Kirkpatrick.

Explosion at Tehran police HQ

Tehran, March 24.—An explosion damaged part of the headquarters of Iran's network of revolutionary committees in Tehran early today, but there were no reports of casualties.

A policeman outside the building said that a bomb had caused the explosion, but the official Pars news agency blamed an electrical short circuit.

Revolutionary committees were established in Iran after the 1979 revolution as a parallel police force, organized on a district level. They have wide powers of arrest and investigation and can hand offenders over to revolutionary tribunals for trial.

The heat of the explosion detonated ammunition stored in the building, causing a further series of explosions heard over much of central Tehran

One wing of the headquarters in an office block, adjoining the former Chamber of the Majlis (Parliament), was blackened by smoke and appeared destroyed. But Pars, apparently trying to play down the incident, said there were no casualties or serious damage.

The explosion occurred early this morning and traffic was light because of the Iranian new year holiday. The police tried to keep people away from the scene, while flak-jacketed youths, apparently members of the local committees, patrolled the building armed with automatic weapons.

Hawkish Sir Ian Gilmour denounces weak West

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Vowing that Britain and the West must be prepared to resist Soviet expansion wherever it occurs, Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal and government spokesman on foreign affairs, last night gave a hawkish speech saying "there are times when force must be met with the threat of force".

Sir Ian made it clear that he was speaking of action outside as well as inside, the Nato area.

Speaking to a meeting of the Bow Group last night, he declared that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was a "consequence of too many years of weak resistance by the West".

Reactions were changing. The West and non-aligned countries appreciated the Soviet threat, while even in East Europe "the Polish people have demonstrated very clearly that whoever else may be overawed by Moscow they are not".

The West's greatest strength remained the "instruments of peace", Sir Ian said, but he noted that some people in the West were still equivocal over meeting force with the threat of force.

With reference to the 1945-49 Greek civil war and the 1950 invasion of South Korea, he said: "I make no apology for reminding you of the choices we as a nation and we in the West faced 30 and more years ago.

"Is the Soviet subjugation of Afghanistan army more legitimate than the Red Army's subjugation of Eastern Europe in the 1940s?

"Is the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia less brutal a use of force than Kim Il Sung's

"Is not the security of our oil supplies as vitally important to us now as it was 30 years ago?

"In short, we must not allow our defences to drop and must be prepared to resist Soviet expansion wherever it occurs."

Sir Ian said the current "cold peace" benefitted no one, and he said it was important that there should be "high-level communication between leaders of East and West".

He voiced some differences with American policy on El Salvador and on rebuilding missile strengths.

On arms control agreements, Sir Ian said: "We do not believe the West should seek to regaimn military superiority over the Warsaw Pact powers." That is a stated objective of the Reagan Administration.

Senior Tory backbenchers last night tabled a Commons motion welcoming the Reagan Administration's decision to seek freedom of action in Angola,

Among the signatories deploring the continued presence of Cuban forces there were Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, Mr John Biggs-Davison, Mr Julian Amery, and other senior members of the Conservatives' backbench foreign affairs and defence committee.

Every time the price goes up, the queues outside shops grow longer

Soviet Union mesmerized by lust for gold

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 24

All that glisters on a Russian nowadays is gold. The self-contented young man on the train has his shirt half unbuttoned to reveal a large gold chain. On his fingers he wears huge gold rings. Altogether he is worth more than a thousand roubles (£630).

The shop assistant wrapping up parcels moves her hands in a slow, curious way, keeping her palms down. She is showing off the eight gold rings she is wearing. The young Georgian flashes a smile to reveal a mouth full of gold. He has not been in any accident—but persuaded the dentist to remove all his healthy front teeth and crown them with gold.

A mania for the yellow metal has gripped the country. Outside every jewelry shop there are long queues for gold. It is worn by men and women alike, at home and at work, with smart clothes and with jeans. Nowadays a Soviet woman is not considered dressed unless she has a flash of gold about her—even when she goes swimming she dives in wearing three chains and several rings to set off her bikini.

The newspapers have been unable to explain the new gold rush, and the authorities are doing their best to stop it; but every time the price of gold—produced from the Soviet mines whose output is a secret—goes up, the queues for it grow longer. The husband who cannot deck out his wife in the metal to which she is accustomed is likely to provoke a crisis. Newspapers have reported cases of families breaking up because wives were unable to afford as many rings as those worn by colleagues at work.

The craze started four or five years ago and has been gathering pace. At first it appeared to be connected with the trend to invest surplus cash in expensive durable objects—carpets, crystal, antique furniture and rare books, and the state naturally saw the way to a quick profit. Gold prices were raised successively in 1977, 1978 and 1979. In the past two years the metal has gone up 140 per cent in price.

But this only spurred the demand. Because gold was expensive and difficult to get hold of, it conferred that much more prestige to own and wear it. It was not simply a sign of wealth, but of status, connexions, the ability to get what cannot be bought. To wear gold showed you had blat—influence

Soviet women will happily skimp on food to save up for gold. Even schoolgirls, infected by the fever at home, appear in class in ear-rings and brooches, causing many a bitter tear from jealous classmates.

The state jewelry factories have naturally found it profitable to encourage the fashion. Silver has virtually disappeared from shop counters. All stones are mounted in gold, and the famous semi-precious stones from the Urals, enamelware pendants and the amber brooches are no longer to be found.

Soviet newspapers have protested that the fever will never be cured as long as only gold is found to decorate the female form. The chief engineer of the state jewelry enterprise retorted a few days ago that modern designs were more varied than ever, that semi-precious stones were all on sale and that more than 3,000 different types of jewelry were now on offer.

But the newspaper commented bluntly: "It is pleasant to read about such abundance, but it would be more pleasant to see it in the shops!"

In Russia, where there is a shortage, there are queues. Last summer *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, the youth newspaper, mused philosophically on the old kerchiefed grandmothers who stood in line for gold for their daughters and granddaughters: "They stand patiently as only their generation knows how to. They used to stand in line for hours for bread, and they learnt patience. Now that experience is serving them well: they are queueing for gold.

"Yes, we live much better now than we used to; but just think how many worthwhile things could be done in that time and with that money if all this wealth were used intelligently!"

MEPs begin work as staff strike is suspended

From David Wood
Strasbourg, March 24

After more than one hitch, the special plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg opened a day late today, but the strike of more than half the 2,000 staff is so far only suspended.

Everything now depends on a general staff meeting in Luxembourg tomorrow morning to vote on some modest concessions offered today by the Parliament's managerial bureau.

Mr Julian Priestley, the moderate strike leader, and his principal colleagues admitted on the Strasbourg picket line that "it will be bloody difficult" to end the strike. But Mr Priestley will recommend acceptance of the Parliament's offer that parliamentary committees and party groups will be free to decide to meet in Luxembourg, rather than Brussels.

Parliament has apparently not yielded on its principle that the staff cannot dictate where MEPs shall meet. Strike leaders say that the leaders of two party groups (the Christian Democrats and Liberals) have already agreed to use Luxembourg, and the communist group leader will put the proposal to his members; but the Anglo-Danish European Democratic group, like the big Socialist group, will not consider deserting Brussels.

In a multilingual Parliament, availability of interpreters is the decisive factor. Twice today the Parliament's sitting had to be suspended.

The staff strike appears to have had one or two beneficial consequences. Both strike leaders and MEPs have become more anxious about the damage being done to the European Parliament, and negotiations between the two sides are being conducted in a more enlightened spirit than last week.

PARLIAMENT, March 24, 1981

Minister backs idea of training with Army for young unemployed

House of Commons

Many young people would like the opportunity of spending a bit of time with the armed forces, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said.

He stated that the Manpower Services Commission was currently considering proposals for a pilot scheme under which 1,000 unemployed young people would receive training in the Army for a period of up to six months. He expected to receive the views of the commission shortly.

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East, Lab): Do not school leavers need industrial training, not military training, training for life and not in killing? What kind of system is it that offers 17-year-olds the choice of being unemployed or going into the Army?

Mr Prior: He should not allow his prejudices to run away with him. This would be an entirely voluntary scheme. There are many young people who would like to have the opportunity of spending a bit of time in her Majesty's forces.

I am by no means certain that the MSC will even recommend the scheme but, speaking personally, I know of many young people who would like to take part.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): There is no better experience for young people than a period of time serving the Queen where they will learn loyalty, self-discipline, self-respect and esprit de corps. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Prior: Apart from all those estimable qualities they can have training for a whole range of skills which they are perhaps more likely to get through this scheme than many others.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline, Lab): Would he treat the matter a little more seriously than that? There will be objections if the aura of this scheme were associated with what loosely might be called square bashing. Will he look at the facilities that might be available for apprentices in the Royal dockyards?

Mr Prior: I hope nobody will think that I am not taking this matter seriously. I believe emphatically that we should look carefully at this sort of scheme.

There are some difficulties about the level of recruitment and apprenticeships in the Royal Navy dockyards and other defence establishments, but generally speaking we need to encourage as many apprenticeships there as we can afford.

Mr Eric Varley, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Chesterfield, Lab): What the minister has just said has many serious implications. We want to know a lot more about the proposed scheme before we give it any kind of approval.

Will he undertake that if the MSC goes ahead and approves the scheme, he will make a statement in the House so that we can go over the matter thoroughly before committing young people to a scheme of this kind?

Young people do not want to have military experience but proper long-term jobs. (Labour cheers.)

Mr Prior: I expect to receive the views of the MSC before long. I do not know what those views will be. If they suggest that we can go ahead with a scheme of this nature, I will report to the House.

Mr Allaun: I will raise this on the adjournment. This is the thin end of the wedge.

'Very stupid' to talk about replacing PM

If any people in the Cabinet were talking about replacing Mrs Thatcher as leader they were very stupid indeed, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, said when he answered questions for the Prime Minister who was attending the EEC summit in Holland.

Earlier **Mr Dennis Canavan** (West Stirlingshire, Lab) had asked: In view of the fact that the Prime Minister is primarily responsible for today's announcement on yet another appalling record total of unemployment, will the Home Secretary send an urgent message to her not to bother coming back because we are better off without her? (Labour cheers and Conservative interruptions.)

Mr Whitelaw (Penrith and the Border, C): I will do my best ... (loud laughter). If Mr Canavan wishes to refer to the unemployment figures the Secretary of State for Employment (Mr Prior) has made the position clear.

If the policies that the Labour Party proposes were to be followed, the situation would be a great deal worse and they know it. (Conservative cheers and Labour shouts of dissent.)

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab): As a number of the Home Secretary's colleagues are trying to replace the Prime Minister as leader, can he say whether this has minority or majority support in the Cabinet? (Labour laughter and cheers.)

Mr Whitelaw: If any people are taking that view they are very stupid, indeed. (Laughter.)

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L): The Secretary of State for Employment said on the radio at lunch-time that within the Cabinet he was constantly raising the question of the unemployment position. In the absence of the Prime Minister, will the Home Secretary arrange for him to have a more sympathetic hearing?

Mr Whitelaw: The Secretary of State for Employment has always had a sympathetic hearing. What people do or do not raise in Cabinet is a matter for members of the Cabinet and no one else. (Interruptions).

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): Since he has been so reticent about matters that take place in Cabinet would he give his views, or maybe the views of the Prime Minister, on the speech made at the weekend by Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture?

Mr Whitelaw: I think he said in his speech at Worcester that the Conservative Party would be the governing party of Britain for another half century. I entirely agree and only wish I was going to be there to see it. (Laughter.)

Mr Foot: I invite him to stick around for a little longer. (Renewed laughter.) Did he also read the section of the speech attributed to the Minister of Agriculture in which he said that if it had not been for public expenditure over a whole range of Government policies, unemployment would have been much higher than it is?

Does he agree with all that about public expenditure, and does he whole-heartedly approve the whole speech by the Minister of Agriculture?

Mr Whitelaw: On the point about expenditure on industry, most certainly I agree that but for the support of British Leyland not only would there have been many jobs lost there but also in component manufacturers throughout the West-Midlands. (Labour cheers)

Had it not been for public expenditure on the youth unemployment and training programmes announced by the Secretary of State for Employment the situation would have been much worse there. (Labour cheers)

Statement on electoral law to be made soon

House of Lords

The Government is sympathetic to the case for permitting United Kingdom citizens resident abroad to vote in elections for the United Kingdom, particularly for the European Parliament, but issues of principle as well as practical problems have to be resolved first, Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said at question time.

He said that the Home Secretary had completed his review of electoral law and procedures and hoped to make a statement about his conclusions before long.

That statement would deal, among other things, with the proposal that United Kingdom citizens resident abroad should be able to vote in elections here.

Lady Faithfull (C): During the review was it found that the number of United Kingdom citizens living abroad for short and long spells have greatly increased and that therefore this matter is of double importance?

Lord Belstead: We must await the statement.

Lord Wigoder (L): Did the review deal with the question of whether we may change to a sensible electoral system? (Cheers and protests.)

Lord Belstead: The review did not deal with the question in the way he has put it.

Lord Wells-Pestell (Lab): Is the minister suggesting that voting rights will be extended to British subjects who have made clear that they have no intention of returning to this country? (Labour cheers.)

Lord Belstead: That is one matter of principle which would have to be seriously considered.

Lord Elwyn-Jones: Will it be considered whether those living abroad pay taxes?

Lord Belstead: That would have to be taken into account.

The committee stages of the Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Bill, the Water Bill and the Forgery and Counterfeiting Bill were concluded.

The increase in petrol and fuel prices could only make life harder for people living in rural areas, Lord Underhill, for the Opposition, said in a short debate on the subject.

Lord Cockfield, Minister of State, Treasury, said they would be talking of £1 a gallon increase if they had embarked on Labour's profligate plans and since then Labour had commited themselves to even higher expenditure.

The price of four star petrol was just about the same in real terms as it had been a year ago and lower than under Labour in 1974. The tax was less in real terms than in 1950, 1960 or 1970.

House adjourned, 9.31 pm.

Staff return to work

European Parliament
Strasbourg

Parliament, halted yesterday because of the staff strike, resumed after Mme Simone Veil, the President, announced that the staff had agreed to resume work while negotiations continued over their dispute.

The proceedings were, however, interrupted several times by complaints over translation problems.

At one stage, while the House was voting on amendments to a report on revision of the rules of procedure, Signor Marco Pannella (Italy, TCGD), intervened to say that the rules were not being observed because there were not translations in to every language.

Mme Veil told him that speeches were not involved and the House was only voting.

Parliament approved an amendment to a procedural change proposed in the report by the committee on the rules of procedure. The amendment, tabled by the Socialist Group, would ensure that if the committee refused to withdraw a proposal failing to get a majority of votes cast in Parliament, Parliament could decide not to vote on the proposal and to refer it back to the appropriate committee. In this case, the committee would report back to Parliament within a month or, in exceptional circumstances, in a shorter time decided by Parliament.

The report had recommended that Parliament would not vote at all in these circumstances and that the matter would be deemed to be referred back.

The procedure committee wanted the change following the ruling of the European Court last year annulling regulations on sugar isoglucose because the Council of Ministers had not waited for an opinion from Parliament on the Regulations.

Treasury have not forecast 3.5 million unemployed

Reports that the Treasury had forecast 3,500,000 unemployed by 1982 or 1983 were not true, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said during exchanges on the latest unemployment figures. The Government was giving support through various schemes, he added, to about 1,214,000 people.

Mr Prior (Lowestoft, C) stated that at March 12, the provisional number of people registered as unemployed in the United Kingdom was 2,484,712.

The seasonally adjusted rise of 77,000 announced today (Tuesday) confirms (he went on) that the rate of increase in recent months is slower than it was at the end of last year. Despite this better trend, we remain deeply concerned at the rapid increase and high level.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab): These figures are an appalling indictment of this bankrupt Government.

Is it true that the Treasury have forecast that unemployment will rise to 3,500,000 in 1983? How long does he intend to go along with such disastrous policies?

Mr Prior: No it is not true that the Treasury have forecast 3,500,000 by 1982 or 1983. The figures are still serious, but whether we get over our problems quickly or not depends on the state of the world recession.

Mr James Marshall (Leicester, South, Lab): How many further jobs will be destroyed as a consequence of the Budget speech?

Mr Prior: It is not necessary for any further jobs to be destroyed as a result of the Budget speech. The reduction in interest rates that has taken place together with the likely further interest rate reductions in line with the policy we are following, could well result in more jobs being available than would otherwise be the case.

Mr Michael Ancram (Edinburgh, South, C): While welcoming the news today that the overall unemployment figure in Scotland had fallen this month and while not wishing to read too much into a single month's figures do they not underline the underlying resilience of the Scottish economy? That bodes well for the future.

Mr Prior: Yes, we are pleased that the increase in unemployment in Scotland over recent months has not been as severe as it has been in other parts of the United Kingdom.

Scotland does have the advantage of extra jobs created by North Sea oil, but it is a good sign that at last it is beginning to show some benefit from investment in the past.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab): As there are many women workers in industry like the potteries who do not register when they become unemployed, would he agree that the real figure of unemployment is now over three million?

If that is the case any responsible minister would either fight in the Cabinet to reverse these economic policies or resign.

Mr Prior: I do not accept that he has got the figure right. There are always a number of people who do not register when they lose their jobs and there have always been a number of people who do register who are not available for work.

The Government is giving support through various schemes to something like 1,214,000 people in jobs, such as through temporary short-time working schemes. This shows clearly that the Government does care about the level of unemployment.

Mr Raymond Whitney (Wycombe, C): Trade union practices have contributed massively to the present level of unemployment.

The Green Paper on immunities shows that further legislation is necessary to improve these practices. Would such legislation be possible within the next Queen's Speech?

Mr Prior: It is not only trade union practices but other practices as well. The Government and management must take their share of responsibility over a period of 20 years or more.

As for trade unions there is no doubt that if we go on paying ourselves more and more money for little extra work we shall run ourselves into even greater problems of uncompetitiveness.

In the last 10 years output has increased by 1 per cent a year—10 per cent in 10 years—and during that 10 years we have paid ourselves 320 per cent more money. That is the way to ruin and high unemployment.

Mr Cyril Smith (Rochdale, L): One of the additional contributory factors to the scandalous level of unemployment is the buying policy of Government departments and of huge industries such as British Leyland, which are being financed by British taxpayers' capital.

For example, the Ministry of Defence establishment at Bath is purchasing goods from abroad that had previously been purchased from textile companies in this country.

Even in the last seven days British Leyland has placed an order in France where that order has always been placed with a textile company in Britain.

Mr Prior: Certainly Government departments have instructions that wherever possible they are to buy British goods.

If there are any cases such as this where any MP believes that goods are being bought abroad by a Government concern which could buy these goods at home, he should let me know about it and I will see that the necessary action is taken.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C): In this deep and tragic recession, is the Manpower Services Commission able to do enough to train and retrain many of the unemployed?

The total number of trained and retrained is according to my figures 92,000 which represents one-third of 1 per cent of the working population.

Mr Prior: Most of the training needs to be done by employers on their own premises. Where they are unable to carry out this training it has to be subsidized and aided by training by the MSC.

I am not satisfied that we are doing enough training, but I am satisfied that it is not necessarily the provision of Government money that is needed but employers should recognize that, [...] we come out of this rece[...] unless they keep their trainin[...] there will be further shortag[...] skills.

Mr Eric Varley, chief Oppo[...] spokesman on employment ([...]terfield, Lab): When doe[...] expect, in the remainder of [...] Parliament, unemployment to [...] to the level that he inherited [...] he was appointed to his pr[...] job?

Mr Prior: I can give no an[...] to that, any more than the [...] Government were able to gi[...] answer when they thought [...]ployment would fall to the [...] they inherited.

Mr Varley: The Governm[...] economic policy is in ruin[...] it is more than likely that h[...] preside over unemploymen[...] three million or more befor[...] Parliament finishes.

Mr Prior: It is cer[...]tainly incorrect to say the Government's policy is [...] succeeding. (Labour laught[...]

Labour MPs have to rec[...] that the present unemploym[...] as much due to the failu[...] pursue the right policies o[...] number of years when I[...] were in office as anything [...] has happened over the la[...] years.

Majority of 164 for regulatory powers of Lloyd's Bill

Sir Graham Page (Crosby, C), the sponsor of the Lloyd's Bill which is designed to improve the self-regulation of the insurance market, said that he would advise MPs who where members of Lloyd's to refrain from voting on the second reading.

Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Blackburn, Lab), on a point of order, said there was an issue about whether MPs who were members of Lloyd's had a direct pecuniary interest which was immediate and personal and which required them not to vote on the Bill.

There were 53 MPs who were members of Lloyd's, including 13 members of the Government. Some were brokers or underwriting members who put their personal wealth at risk and had to say they had £100,000 at least, which was put at risk.

For members of Lloyd's to vote on the Bill would be inconsistent with the standards of public life which the public had come to expect.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas) said that if any MP had the slightest doubt about whether he had a pecuniary interest on a matter he should not vote.

If he did vote, he did have the risk that the House could disallow the vote afterward. He was obliged to Sir Graham Page for his statement.

Later Sir Graham Page moved the second reading of the Bill which would establish a Council of Lloyd's and define its functions and powers.

The council would control the management and regulation of Lloyd's and have power to make by-laws, including those dealing with admission, suspension and disciplining of members of Lloyd's, Lloyd's brokers, underwriting agents and others.

He said the Bill was promoted by the Society of Lloyd's which was incorporated by statute as long ago as 1871. The community of Lloyd's earned in overseas earnings to this country £515m a year and provided employment for 72,000 people.

Its constitution had proved in important respects in modern times to be an obstruction to the effective control and advancement of the society's proper functions in the insurance market.

The procedure was cumbersome. Under the Bill a new Council of Lloyd's would be constituted to take over the functions of the existing committee. Also cumbersome was the disciplinary procedure, and the promoters of the Bill were asking Parliament to give them power to set up proper disciplinary bodies.

Just as important was the power to make by-laws for committees of inquiry which the Bill sought. Lloyd's could not control the insurace farket unless it had regulatory powers over the community of Lloyd's. It was asking for power to allow it to govern all those who operattd within the market.

Lloyd's sought in this Bill to go further than the immunity given to the ordinary company servant under the Companies Act. They sought to protect not only their servants and directors but the society itself.

This needed careful consideration and consultation with those who did not have the opportunity on a private Member's Bill to make their voices heard at all stages in the Commons and the Lords.

He sought to delay a decision so that consultation could take place. He gave an undertaking on behalf of the Bill's promoters that they would seek at a later stage to insert an amendment providing power in Schedule 2 for by-laws to be made about immunity.

If any by-laws of that kind were made it was not operative until it had been embodied in an order in council which woul drequire the affirmative approval of both Houses of Parliament.

The present committee of Lloyd's was determined that there should be a separation of broking from underwriting. (Conservative cheers.) This was difficult to work out on the floor of the House or even in a committee of the House.

Lloyd's wished the new council to consider carefully how independence of operation should be brought about.

It was considered that the provisions for ensuring that malpractices, fraudulent activities and so on were reported to the council at the earliest possible stage did not go far enough.

He gave an undertaking that further paragraphs would be added empowering further by-laws for investigating frauds and crimes, prosecuting those responsible and handling documents to the police.

These were formidable weapons which Lloyd's would be able to use to attack the malpractices and fraud in the insurance market.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Batleya and Morley, Lab) said he had reservations about the clause dealing with liability. He was not happy that this would be dealt with by secondary legislation.

I will be looking (he said) for a commitment that the principle itself will be abandoned and that any further discussions that take place will start from the presumption that no blanket immunity can be guaranteed.

Mr Reginald Eyre, Under Secretary of State for Trade (Birmingham, Hall Green, C) said it was the very success of Lloyd's which had pointed to the problems which the Bill sought to solve. Most of Lloyd's procedures were founded in custom and practice and were none the worst for that. But some updating of the law was timely.

Government regulation could not be substituted for self-regulation without destroying the character of the institution. There might be a case for chaning individual provisions of the Bill—that was for debate. There was clearly no case for destroying the institutional framework.

The proposed amendment on legal immunity would allow the matter to be fully and properly considered. If a by-law on immunities was adopted by special resolution, the Secretary of State would be prepared to consider it and if satisfied to bring it before the Privy Council and Parliament for approval.

This was the quicktts way for the new regulatory machinery to be established. It enabled consultation with all interests to start soon and retained for Parliament the right to decide, in the light of these consultations, what degree of immunity was right.

This was the quickest way for underwriting agents was complex. An attempt to incorporate such requirements in the Bill could cause delay while the principles outlined by Sir Henry Fisher's working party were examined and converted into effective working rules. This problem needed careful examination and could not, in his view, be dealt with by adding a sentence to the Bill.

It was essential that Lloyd's should be able to deal with fraud. It was right for the House to be satisfied that proper powers existed for this purpose. I am advised (he said) that the arrangements which are to be proposed will have that effect.

The Government was satisfied that the provisions in the Bill were not in conflict with the requirements of the statutes in force or with Government policy. Some strengthening of Lloyd's regulatory powers was necessary. The Government wished the Bill well.

Mr Clinton Davis, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Hackney, Central, Lab) said it was vitally important for Lloyd's to introduce a Bill to revise its procedures. The reputation of Lloyd's for integrity, trustworthidess, and fair dealing were prime ingredients for its survival and expansion in the future.

It was conceivable that if proposals were introduced to abandon self-regulation at this stage without giving the new proposals a chance to work, that could be construed as a vote of no confidence in Lloyd's and that could lead to an erosion of confidence in its continued ability to trade profitably abroad.

Much of the controversy surrounding the Bill had centred on the immunity provisions. It was unquestionably a difficult problem.

How did one reconcile the need to take speedy and effective action to detect and stop abuses so as to avoid or limit losses to insured with the undesirability of providing extensive and unprecedeated immunities in law to a self-regulatory body?

He hoped Lloyd's would think seriously about the matter. The idea of subordinate legislation was wrong.

He was glad to hear of the strengthening of the proposals for dealing with fraud. The inadequacy of Lloyd's capacity to act swiftly had been a matter of great anxiety in recent cases. It was not their fault. They were encumbered by ludicrous, totally out-dated procedures.

Sir Anthony Royle (Richmond upon Thames, Richmond, C) said that as director of a major broking firm at Lloyd's he was in no way opposed to divestment. It was right that the new council should tackle and decide this complicated but important issue.

The Bill was read a second time by 206 votes to 42—majority, 164.

House adjourned, 11 pm.

Inquiry into methane terminal on Canvey

A public inquiry is to be [...] into the continued siting [...] British Gas methane termin[...] Canvey Island, Essex, Mr M[...] Heseltine, Secretary of Sta[...] the Environment, announced [...] statement.

He said he had ordere[...] inquiry following a report [...] said it would be wrong fo[...] terminal to remain sited so [...] to resident population unl[...] foolproof device for protecti[...] the public could be installed.

The inspector at the in[...] would be asked, together [...] specialist assessors, if it [...] be right to begin discontin[...] procedures or whether such [...] would be inappropriate.

Mr Heseltine said: An explo[...] local inquiry was held in 19[...] consider whether to revoke [...] line planning permission [...] had been granted to United [...]neries Limited for an oil ref[...] At the inquiry an assessor r[...]mended study of the inter-r[...] risks of the Canvey area.

This study was then carrie[...] by the Health and Safety E[...]tive who concluded that the [...] did not justify closure of a[...] the existing installations at C[...] provided that certain imp[...]ments were carried out. The [...] inquiry was reopened in 19[...] take account of their finding[...] the inspector was asked to [...]sider the safety aspects of the [...]posed refinery, having rega[...] existing uses in the vicinity.

On the matters under cons[...]tion before the inquiry, he [...] no real disagreement with [...] executive's findings on the [...] of risks involved, and he [...]cluded that the additional [...] from the proposed refinery [...] in itself be comparatively sm[...]

However, notwithstanding [...]provements initiated followin[...] executive's study, the insp[...] was concerned about the po[...] consequences of any inciden[...] the nearby British Gas me[...] terminal, and judged that it [...] be wrong for that termin[...] remain sited so close to res[...] population unless a fool[...] device for protection of the p[...] could be installed.

I must stress that the met[...] terminal was not itself the [...]ject of the inquiry. The insp[...] did not and was not asked to [...]sider all the issues involved i[...] safety of this plant. But in [...] light of his very serious rem[...] I consider that it is essential [...] these issue, to be properly [...] urgently subjected to a full [...]quiry at which all the facts [...] opinions can be evaluated and [...]sidered.

I am therefore today conta[...] the Castle Point District Co[...] with a view to arranging a[...] inquiry under planning power[...] be arranged as soon as possi[...] The inspector, with speci[...] assessors, will be asked whe[...] it would be right to begin [...] continuance procedures [...] whether, in the light of the [...]dence given to the inquiry, [...] a step would be inappropriate.

As the terminal is operati[...] land of a statutory underta[...] the report will be made to [...] Secretary of State for Energy [...] well as to me. Meanwhile I [...]pose to defer further a deci[...] on whether the United Refine[...] Limited permission should be [...]voked. I also shall defer decis[...] a planning appeal by London [...] Coastal Oil Wharves Limited [...] development at their site near [...] methane terminal.

Sir Bernard Braine (South-E[...] Essex, C): If he is to allay pu[...] anxiety about a major haz[...] which has had three enforcem[...] notices served on it by the Hea[...] and Safety Executive for negli[...]ing elementary safety precauti[...] he should set up his inquiry fo[...] with.

British Gas are already dec[...]missioning their below grou[...] storage of liquefied natural g[...] How long is this welcome proc[...] going to take?

Can he give an assurance that [...] the meantime the British Gas C[...]poration will not be permitted [...] reactivate their liquefied pet[...] gas pipeline which they are seeki[...] to do and which would give the[...] an excuse for permanent L[...] storage on the island.

Mr Heseltine: It is right in t[...] circumstances to establish the fa[...] about the British Gas termi[...] before judging whether it would [...] right to proceed to discontinuanc[...]

I understand the time envisag[...] for decommissioning the und[...]ground storage is about two yea[...] but it does involve the availabili[...] of alternative storage, probably [...] the Isle of Grain.

Any proposal concerning reac[...]vation of the liquid gas pipeli[...] would be within the purview of [...] Health and Safety Executive.

We must reach properly in[...]formed decisions on these issu[...] which concern both the safety o[...] people living in the area and [...] public interest in maintaining [...] gas supply.

Consultation continues on trade union immunities

It was bizarre in the extreme to assert that the law barely allowed trade unions to operate Mr David Waddington, Under Secretary of State for Employment, stated during questions about the Government's Green Paper on trade union immunities.

Mr Waddington (Clitheroe, C) said that he had received representations from about 30 organizations and individuals about the green paper. Consultations were due to last until June 30.

In view of the importance and complexity of the issues raised in the Green Paper he did not expect to receive comments from the major organizations in industry until later in the consultative period.

Mr Timothy Renton (Mid Sussex, C): Bearing in mind the strong wish of many trade unionists for further action to limit the closed shop and for compulsory secret ballots before certain strikes, is it his intention that ministers will introduce further legislation on trade union immunities in the lifetime of the present Parliament?

Mr Waddington: I know how concerned people are about the closed shop. It has come into prominence particularly because of what happened at Sandwell. There is also concern about secret ballots.

We are not committed to legislate during the course of this Parliament. Neither are we committed not to legislate. This is genuine consultation. We will look at the arguments and representations made to us during this period and then we will decide in the light of all the evidence what it is correct to do.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab): The legal position of trade unions only allows them barely to function—(Conservative interruptions)—and the position of the trade unions has not apparently stopped the unemployment figure rising to 2,500,000.

This is eroding the position of the trade unions, and that is part of the policy of the present Tory Government. The only place where the Tory Government wants to see free trade unions operating is in Poland, but not in the United Kingdom.

Mr Waddington: To assert that the present law barely allows trade unions to operate is bizarre in the extreme. Trade unions in this country have privileges which are not granted to trade unions in almost any other country in the world.

Adequate powers

Mr Peter Mills (West Devon, C) asked if the Home Secretary would seek powers to proscribe any organization that has the advancement of paedophilia among its objectives.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, said in a written reply: We share the feelings behind the request, but the Home Secretary has no reason to think that the existing law is inadequate for the protection of children.

Participation

The Department of Employment was carrying out a survey, which he hoped would be available in the spring, on the progress being made towards satisfactory schemes of employee participation in companies, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Emploment, said at question time. The CBI also had a monitoring scheme.

Move to tie MPs to party labels rejected

A Bill designed to disqualify MPs who resign from the political party for which they stand at a general election was rejected by 166 votes to 142.

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab) failed to get leave to introduce his House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 (Amendment) Bill which was designed to insert into that Act that among the persons disqualified from membership of the Commons was any person who, having been described on the ballot paper at the time of his election to the Commons as a candidate for any political party, thereafter resigned his membership of that party.

Mr Canavan said that the Speaker was unique in that he was the only MP who was not elected at the last general election on a party political description. The rest stood as party political candidates and were elected because the majority of the electors voted for their particular political allegiance.

The vast majority of people did not vote simply on the merits or demerits of candidates as individuals. They voted either Labour, Tory or Liberal and it was sheer arrogance to pretend otherwise.

He did not know of any MP who described himself or herself at the 1979 general election as a Social Democrat, and yet there were 13 MPs sitting in the House who stood as Labour Party candidates at that election and one who stood as a Tory candidate.

They had the brass neck to sit in the Commons after having resigned from their parties and call themselves Social Democrats.

There is (he continued) nothing absolutely new in all this. If you look at this history of the Parliamentary Labour Party it is almost littered with the political corpses of people who have thought they could break away and go it alone—people like Oswald Mosley, Desmond Donnelly, and more recently Dick Taverne as well as the present Tory MP for Daventry (Mr Reginald Prentice) who was elected as a Labour MP and crossed the floor to join the most reactionary Tory Government.

This latest brand of so-called Social Democrats (he continued) seem to be following the bad example of the present Tory MP for Daventry and refusing to test their new colours before their constituencies.

That is why I say that these people are phoney democrats—they are anti-social and anti-democrat, and they are taking a massive swipe at representative democracy as we know it in this country. (Protests.)

They pose as the guardians of parliamentary democracy, but the truth is the contrary because 255,558 Labour voters in 13 constituencies in the United Kingdom voted for the return of a Labour MP and achieved the return of a Labour MP at the 1979 general election, and now find themselves deprived of a Labour representative in this place and find themselves represented by a Social Democrat.

To those who say I have any party political bias (Laughter)—there are 33,796 Tory electors in one Tory constituency who voted for the return of a Tory MP, successfully returned that Tory MP and now find themselves represented by a so-called Social Democrat.

I submit that the only honourable and decent course these Jenkinsites and the rest of them, and anybody else that way inclined, is to resign, and if they want they can stand in the subsequent by-elections under their new colours.

My guess is that if any of them do have the decency and guts to stand in a by-election they will get their come-uppance. The majority of electors in this country, especially in Labour constituencies, have not got much time for defectors, turncoats and traitors.

My guess is that these enemies of democracy will be exposed at any by-election and will be thrown out on their necks.

That is why I say my Bill will do a public service. I appeal to all moderate MPs like myself—(laughter)—who are interested in the perservation of parliamentary democracy, to support my Bill.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby, Soc Dem), opposing the Bill, said Mr Canavan was proposing a matter of the utmost importance to Parliament, not just the Social Democrats but the whole House.

He had raised the question of who should have the right to disqualify and remove an MP from the House. The Bill was a fundamental attack on the principles of representative parliamentary democracy.

The House should uphold the established view that only constituents had the right to remove MPs. The Bill was a further move in the direction of extending the authority of the party label over the MP.

The relationship with constituents was the most important that MPs had. It was wrong to seek to make any MP responsible to anyone other than the electorate. The Bill was seeking to extend the authority of the party over the MP.

It did not seek to remove people who had reneged on a party manifesto but simply upon a party label irrespective of what that party decided to do or whether it changed its constitution, personality or policy. The Bill sought to tie the MP to the party label.

The Bill said the MP must accept "It is my party, right or wrong" irrespective of the conscience or the attitudes of the individual MP. It was only one step away from the time when the withdrawal of the party whip meant expulsion from the House.

The pressure, particularly in the Labour Party, to turn MPs into delegates in recent times was something he and others had resisted strongly. The House should resist it.

He hoped the House would bear in mind the implications of the Bill and not be swayed by short-term political advantage (Labour laughter) and look at the profound constitutional implications of writing into a statute a means of disqualifying MPs from the House.

Mr Tristan Garel-Jones (Watford, C), after the voting figures had been announced, raised a point of order, saying: Mr Wrigglesworth objected to the Bill and as a result the House was forced into a division.

Many of us on the Conservative side voted for the survival of this new grouping. However, on the first occasion they have divided the House, they have chosen to abstain.

Can we be given some guidance on how to deal with this in the future? (Laughter and interruptions.)

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, Soc Dem): We did not vote in the lobbies because we decided it might be construed that we had an interest. (Laughter.)

£25m increase in Britain's aid to Zimbabwe

The Prime Minister's dominance had resulted in an aid policy which was characterized by ignorance, meanness and selfishness, Mr Guy Barnett, an Opposition spokesman on overseas development (Greenwich, Lb) said when he opened a debate on the effect of Government cuts on the overseas aid programme.

He moved an Opposition motion deploring the damaging cuts in the United Kingdom aid programme and the hostility to official overseas aid which some Government statements had revealed, including the Prime Minister's description of overseas aid as "a hand-out". The motion called on the Government to reverse its policy of cutting aid, and especially to restore the disproportionate cuts in offical aid to the poorest countries.

Mr Barnett said this country could no longer hope to prosper in isolation from mankind as a whole. There was much under-used capacity in some of the poorest countries which could not be developed without help from the richer countries.

Pressure should be put on the Government to increase its aid development programme. There had been a cut of 18 per cent in 1980 compared with 1979. The figure for 1979 was £787m while that for 1980 was £643m.

Mr Neil Marten, Minister for Overseas Development (Banbury, C) said a substantial aid programme was being maintained which would be of great benefit to the developing countries. It would also bring orders to British industry and thus help to sustain employment in a number of key sectors of the economy.

The Government wished the Zimbabwe conference now in progress every success in attracting maximum possible international support. The British aid programme was generous. It was concentrated on the areas of greatest priority to the Zimbabwe government, particularly reconstruction and resettlement.

The Government recognized the great need for land resettlement, but the overall needs were beyond the capacity of Britain alone or any other single donor. It was hoped that other donors would join in this essential programme.

Nevertheless (he went on), in recognition of the special needs which have been put before the donors' conference we have decided that some further assistance is justified. We have been able to allocate a further £10m for resettlement and a further £5m for higher level awards for the training of Zimbabwean students who will be finishing this summer intermediate-level courses supported under our pre-independence training programme.

With these additions, Britain's aid programme to Zimbabwe would be £111m. In addition, Britain would be providing £10m for regional transportation projects in southern Africa, which might not actually be in Zimbabwe but would be of direct benefit to it.

I have just heard (he said) that the European Community has committed £54m, of which the United Kingdom share will be about £10m.

It was the Government's aim to shift the balance from multilateral aid towards a bilateral programme in the long term. Britain had confirmed its support for the $40,000m general capital increase to the World Bank.

Some MPs who called vociferously for more aid were precisely those who were simultaneously pressing for tighter import controls. This would severely hit developing countries

Mr David Ennals (Norwich, North, Lab) said the amount by which Britain was cutting aid for the next year was seven times the total amount that could be expected to be raised by all the voluntary aid programmes in Britain put together. However much the Government might look to the voluntary sector, they could not possibly fill the gap left by the cut in Government aid.

Mr John Townend (Bridlington, C) said ministers should not be embarrassed about the reductions in overseas aid. They had the overwhelming support of people.

The Government would have been a lot more popular, and it would have been better understood, if overseas aid had been reduced by £250m and the petrol tax had been increased by 15p instead of 20p.

Mr Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull, Central, Lab) said it was of far greater aid to western security and a more lasting investment for peace if they sent tractors and simple agricultural instruments around the world than if they sent tanks or Armalites or any other method of destruction.

Mr Bowen Wells (Hertford and Stevenage, C) said unless Britain sought to aid the poor, to develop where under-development had caused misery and poverty, it did not and should not aspire to any kind of world leadership let alone influence.

Miss Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich, West, Lab) said that in its approach to population matters and aid and development the Government gave the impression of "sounding brass", yet it was doing little more than tinkering with the situation.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C) said that aid of £1,000m in a year was not a figure to be ashamed of. Coupled with the increased private funds the aid amounted to £5,300m a year, equivalent to 2.8 per cent of gross national product and second only to that of the United States.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, L) said it was unacceptable that a minister of this country, one of the 12 richest in the world, should not only defend an 0.3 per cent expenditure but assert that Britain should be proud of it.

Mr Stephen Dorrell (Loughborough, C) said private companies operating in proper circumstances had a major role to play in terms of transferring production technology to the developing world.

Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler (North-West Norfolk, Soc Dem) said he regretted that the Government had embarked on a course of increased defence spending and decreased expenditure on overseas aid. In some countries an aid programme could be a much more effective counter to communism than having an extra half-dozen tanks.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 302 votes to 245—Government majority, 57—and the Government amendment, noting that the aid programme for 1981-82 would be over £1,000m, and welcoming the Government's intention to continue to give priority to the poorest countries in allocating bilateral aid, was agreed.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Completion of remaining stages of Local Government, Miscellaneous Provisions (Scotland) Bill; Ports (Financial Assistance) Bill, second reading.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Debates on agriculture and on closed shop policies of some local authorities.

Ir Pincher : "The spy man."

Mr Pincher, skilled scourge of Whitehall

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Chapman Pincher, the an who disclosed this week e suspicions about Sir Roger ollis, lists among his hobbies the current edition of *ho's Who* "ferreting in hitehall and bolting politians".

After 30 years in journalism rhaps it should have been aded as work rather than creation, for Mr Pincher's est revelations come after a ng career of trying to puncre Whitehall's protective ell. In 1966, his work earned n the title of "Reporter of e *Decade*".

The man who began his rking life as a scientist ved after the last war to urnalism and the *Daily press* under Lord Beaverbook. There his scientific ckground took him increasly into the world of defence the armed forces entered nuclear age.

Having moved from science and medical reporting in Whitehall, he became over years a source of constant ry for politicians, civil servants and his rivals.

In the middle 1960s his endship with Colonel Leslie han, secretary of the Notice Committee, became centre of a political dispute with the Labour Government under Sir Harold Wilson. By that time he had lieved what he considered his latest newspaper coup in disclosing the exchange of Mr eville Wynn, the businessn held by the Russians, for Gordon Lonsdale, convicted er the Portland naval spy a case.

The move from science to ence to *spies now seems* ical. In the period after the the first spies uncovered e those connected with pasg atom secrets. Mr Pincher d yesterday: "I became the uce spy man. From there I t became the spy man."

His book, published this k, in which the questions ut Sir Roger are raised, is culmination of his work. *ir Trade is Treachery* is wn from many sources.

Mr Pincher, who is aged 66, d: "I would not comment ut a major leak from MI5. e does not get these things n one scource."

The suspicions about Sir ger had been discussed, he d, by former MI5 and intelnce men for years. "At no e", he added, "in the book I say Hollis was a spy. It t documentary adducing all evidence brought forward his own colleagues. I also ke it quite clear it was not ven".

The book, which takes its e from a handbook on urity produced for civil servs in an attempt to stop fori penetration, is evidence of Pincher's fascination with broad pattern of successful etration by foreign agents r the years.

You cannot tell the story all without mentioning the picions surrounding Sir ger because in a number of as they were the pivotal g", Mr Pincher said.

He has written various books, uding several novels, and name will be *on the book*lves again shortly with a ional story based on the at days of the Café Royal. is his fascination with subuge over. He is planning ook with Lady Falkender on -wing infiltration of the our Party.

There have been reports week that Mr Pincher's gations about Sir Roger n from his work with Lady kender. Mr Pincher, howr, denies that there is any h in the reports.

In an earlier book he quoted story of the time Sir Harold son came out of a meeting laiming that he had been that a former head of MI5 ld have been a spy. But had not been involved in present book.

Now he awaits with interest Prime Minister's response his book. "When you are the position of waiting for prime minister's statement re is always a little anxiety," said.

The statement could be pful or very destructive."



The Hollis affair: Inside MI5

Search for new kind of classless spycatcher

By Peter Hennessy and Stewart Tendler

Mr James Callaghan, as Prime Minister in the mid-1970s, launched a substantial reform of the Security Service, MI5, in the wake of the Trend report on the past career of Sir Roger Hollis, its former Director-General. A central element of the reform was the desire to recruit a different type of officer with a greater understanding of the social condition of the country, which MI5 exists to save from subversion.

A senior civil servant from outside the Security Service was asked by Mr Callaghan to examine the background and calibre of those serving in MI5. He was also invited to investigate its past recruitment practices and to gauge their adequacy.

Unlike the Secret Intelligence Service, *MI6*, the *Home* Civil Service and the Diplomatic Service, MI5 had not used the *Civil Service Selection* Board to find its senior staff. The board operates a battery of tests, exercises and a measurea of *psychological screening in* an effort to make more objective judgements and to discern the pattern of future potential and development of the young men and women in their early twenties who pass through its hands.

MI5's continued reliance on personal *nominations* and a careful sounding out of likely officers by university tutors had long inspired disdain in other sections of the public service. As one accomplished phrase-maker put it: "Five is a way of finding employment for muscular under-achievers from the ancient universities".

The official's report to the Prime Minister, to which Mr Callaghan alluded in a Commons debate about the Blunt affair *on November 21, 1979, was not* as scathing as that about past performance and the ability of those already serving. But it did recommend that in future MI5 recruits should pass through the rigours of the selection board.

The report was accepted and MI5 men and women (who, with recruits to MI6 were the only groups exempted from the Civil Service recruitment freeze of 1979) began appearing in 1977 before the board's panellists, who include two former directors-general of the Security Service.

Leading the drive to reform MI5 was Lord Hunt of Tanworth, who as Sir John Hunt was Secretary of the Cabinet from 1973 to 1979 and who summoned his predecessor, Lord Trend, from retirement to investigate the past career of Sir Roger Hollis. Lord Hunt was closely assisted by Sir Robert Armstrong, the present Secretary of the Cabinet, who, as a Home Office deputy secretary, was the department's link man with MI5 in the mid-1970s.



Lord Hunt: Leading the drive for reform.

The kind of man and woman MI5 is now seeking does not fit the mould of the normal civil servant. The life of *painstaking* routine, away from the glamour of policy-making, sometimes involving personal danger when extremist organizations have to be penetrated, requires an individual with a streak of dogged, relatively simplistic patriotism in his make-up, though an excess of zeal is discouraged.

A wider social mix in its intake is being sought in an effort to improve MI5's ability to understand some of the political movements of the 1980s and contemporary developments inside the trade unions. A suspicion of left-wing activities, arising from a *Daily Telegraph* style view of the world, is not judged an especially bad trait as at present MI5 regards the far left as a greater threat to the nation's stability than the far right.

Recent history has given it ample basis for that belief.

For more than thirty years spy and security scandals have periodically erupted in Britain. Rarely has the spotlight shifted from individuals such as Professor Blunt, the confessed spy, his colleagues in the Philby affair, and now Sir Roger Hollis.

But the picture is incomplete without an examination of MI5 in the years when Sir Roger began his upward climb and such men as Professor Blunt were recruited.

Before the Second World War MI5 was largely concerned with questions of Imperial policy but never given the tools to do the job. The permanent staff was extremely small, often recruited from former colonial policemen and the like.

The first university graduate to join in the 1930s was paid less than half his previous salary as a teacher. As an MI5 investigating officer he earned £300 a year and had no pension rights.

Sir Roger, an experienced "China hand", would not have been out of place in the colonial atmosphere. Ill after working in Shanghai, he may have found in the service the steady occupation he needed.

When he joined in 1939 it was still under the control of Sir Vernon Kell, its founder, and had amassed about two million files. According to service mythology, Sir Vernon began the collection with a handful in a briefcase which he carried round to the War Office.

Many of the files were little more than a card index of people who "had come to notice" and covered members of the British Communist Party and the Fascist groups.

With a budget of £50,000, MI5 geared itself for war, but the real acceleration came after the fall of France in 1940, when the service faced the difficulties of a prospective fifth column.

Sir Roger was a member of a small cadre of regular officers in charge of the influx of bright men and women drafted in to MI5. Among them was Professor Blunt.

Much of the recruiting was accomplished through personal recommendation, especially through aademic circles and the Bar. Former members of MI5 include five senior judges and many Oxbridge historians and philosophers.

The service was a mixture of gifted amateurs and the professionals. Sir Roger is remembered as being outshone intellectually by the draftees and not as knowledgeable as the "real old hands", but he was an effective head of his section.

If he was a Russian spy even in those days, he could do nothing for Burgess and Philby. MI5 tried to get Burgess removed from the BBC because he was thought to be too talkative *about his work in the* propaganda section. But the BBC refused to remove Burgess.

Philby was rejected when he tried to join Ultra, the secret operation to intercept German intelligence messages.

But Sir Roger was in charge of a section that included F2B/C, a small group aimed at countering Russian activities. In the days when the Soviet Union was still an ally the group remained small and inefficient. It had few facilities and little success.

There are those who say the nine years Sir Roger served was too long. It was certainly a period of great activity by MI5. Between 1956 and 1965 the Portland naval spy ring was broken, George Blake was captured, Professor Blunt confessed, William Vassall and Philby were uncovered.

If Sir Roger was a spy, were those achievements nothing more than pawns surrendered for larger gains?

The Hollis affair: The "Daily Mail" text

When Blunt won two weeks' grace

■ *This is the second instalment of the* Daily Mail's *exclusive account of "The Hollis Affair". The Times is republishing this material by agreement with the* Daily Mail.

The behaviour of Roger Hollis during the confession and continuing interrogation of Anthony Blunt in the spring and summer of 1964 helped to intensify the suspicions against him.

The case officer who induced Blunt to confess happened to be the man who first suspected Hollis, and was a prominent member of the MI5/Secret Service Committee, called the Fluency Committee, investigating Soviet penetrations of the Service.

Roger Hollis forced a row with this officer when he had barely begun to interrogate Blunt and suspended him from duty for a fortnight.

The case officer offered to carry on with the questioning of Blunt from his home, but Hollis forbade it. As a result Blunt was astonishingly left alone for two weeks, during which time nobody knows what he did although it is now thought he took the time so scandalously given to him to consult his Soviet employers.

But Hollis was still not finished. He picked another quarrel with the same case officer, and, though he was very senior, summarily sacked him.

However, this time he did not get his own way. The man's reputation was so high that he was snapped up by the Secret Service and, to Hollis's mortification, remained on the *Fluency* Committee investigating the leakages.

Anthony Blunt was, in fact, a much more important Soviet agent than has yet been realized.

His crimes against his country, dragged out of him during hundreds of hours of taped interrogation, were such an indictment of wartime security that every effort has been made to cover them from public knowledge.

First, I can reveal precisely what it was that happened in late 1963 which led to his unmasking:

A middle-aged American belonging to a rich and famous American family, was invited to undertake a political task by the White House. Having a guilt complex about his secret past, he went to the FBI headquarters in Washington hoping to clear himself before accepting the White House post.

There he confessed that he had been a communist while in England at Cambridge University, had been recruited to Soviet intelligence and had served the Russian interests for several years.



Anthony Blunt : Hollis actions fired suspicions.

He named the man who had recruited him as Sir Anthony Blunt and said he was prepared *to give evidence* against Blunt in court if necessary.

The FBI passed this information to MI5 and it was only when confronted by it in April 1964 that Blunt decided to confess after being first assured that he would never face prosecution.

Blunt has said publicly that he felt free to confess because something that happened in 1964 "freed him from loyalties to his friends". The sanctimonious hypocrite confessed because, for the first time in his treacherous life, he was frightened.

Blunt, who became the KGB's chief talent spotter in Cambridge, recruited several important spies before leaving for London. As we know, Blunt got himself inside MI5 where he performed many valuable services for the Russians.

For many months Blunt served as the MI5 officer in charge of the "watchers", the men and women who carry out surveillance of hostile agents. As he was responsible for allotting their various tasks every week, he had also to be told of every counter-espionage operation in which they were involved.

He confessed he regularly gave all this information to the Russians so that Soviet intelligence could operate against Britain in safety.

He warned the Russians that the Communist Party headquarters in London was being bugged and how it was done and also, most damagingly perhaps of all, kept the Soviets regularly informed about the personnel in MI5.

In the Registry of MI5 each file on its members is entitled "Sovbloc Green" in the case of those believed to be unknown to the KGB; "Sovbloc Amber" for those who might be known; "Sovbloc Red" for those definitely known.

As a result of Blunt's activities *alone, apart from* those of the other spies in the organization, every member was really "Sovbloc Red" during the whole period he was working there.

In a similar way Blunt also prejudiced many American operations and endangered their personnel because he informed the Russians about the activities of the United States wartime intelligence *organization, the Office of Strategic* Services, whose members worked alongside MI5 in a joint endeavour from 1942 onwards.

Blunt had no further access to secret documents after he left MI5 in 1945. But he remained in close touch with Guy Liddell, the Deputy Director of MI5 who, having no knowledge of Blunt's treachery, shared interesting MI5 gossip with him.

However this does not mean, as Blunt implies, that he ceased working actively for the Russians.

Spies cannot function effectively in a foreign land without home-grown assistance to do routine work like finding safe houses, organizing dead letter boxes, serving as paymaster and so on. This became Blunt's new role.

He told his interrogators, for instance, how he had emptied a dead letter box under a tree on a common in the East End of London where Burgess had left information and where he found a pile of money left for Burgess by the KGB.

Though Blunt did not, contrary to previously published information, know the precise date on which MI5 planned to interrogate Maclean and so could not therefore have tipped him off, he did keep in close touch with Guy Burgess during the vital period that he was planning his defection.

One question which has never been resolved about the Blunt affair is, did the Queen know *that one of her employees, Surveyor* of the Royal Pictures, had admitted to being a Soviet spy?

Normally writers do not really know what the Queen does or says but, because of a fluke circumstance, I *know* that the Queen was properly alerted to the Blunt situation by her Private Secretary, Sir Michael Adeane, as soon as he had received details of Blunt's confessions. She merely asked what the official advice was and, on being told that he should be left where he was, agreed to accept it in the national interest.

Presumably, the Queen experienced some distaste, but she rarely had occasion to *meet Blunt.*

From Their Trade is Treachery, *by Chapman Pincher, to be published later this week by Sidgwick and Jackson, £7.95.*

Law Report March 24 1981 — Court of Appeal

Proper approach to damages for unlawful detention of goods

Brandeis Goldschmidt & Co Ltd v Western Transport Ltd

Before Lord Justice Brandon, Lord Justice Donaldson and Lord Justice Ackner

[Judgment delivered March 19]

There is no general rule for assessing damages for the wrongful detention of goods. Damages can be recovered only for a loss or losses actually suffered, and the measure of damages awarded on that basis may vary infinitely according to the circumstances of each particular case. Failure by a plaintiff to show that he has suffered a properly quantifiable loss would entitle him only to nominal damages for the infringement of his right to possession of the goods.

The Court of Appeal so stated in allowing an appeal by the appellants, Western Transport Ltd, from an award of £6,388 damages by Judge Lipfriend, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, to Brandeis Goldschmidt & Co Ltd, copper importers, for the wrongful detention of goods.

Mr C. C. Lindsay for the appellants; Mr J. J. Finney for Brandeis.

LORD JUSTICE BRANDON said that Brandeis imported copper to be refined and sold as cathodes. On July 30, 1976, they engaged forwarding agents, Pemelco Ltd, to arrange for the transportation of about 500 tons of copper from Avonmouth to the premises of Elkington Copper Refineries Ltd, Walsall, *for refining there.* Pemelco contracted with Western Transport, the appellants, to carry the copper. Pemelco, who owed substantial sums to the appellants, went into voluntary liquidation on August 2, 1976.

The appellants, instead of transporting all the copper to the Elkington refineries, retained possession of about 42 tons of it, claiming a general right of lien by virtue of their contract with Pemelco. They put the retained copper in a safe store and kept it insured.

Brandeis demanded the release of the copper, and when the appellants refused they issued a specially indorsed writ claiming delivery up of the copper detained, or its value, together with damages for wrongful detention. An order for the delivery up, made by Master Lubbock under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, was complied with *by the appellants* but the question of damages for detention was by consent transferred to a judge.

Brandeis had pleaded no particulars of the claim for damages, but their secretary, Mr Cotgrove, had sworn an affidavit in support. The inference to be drawn from the affidavit was that Brandeis had not acquired the copper to sell on the market, and would not have used it for that purpose. They would have used it as a raw material for their business with the purpose of making profits from the sale of the finished product.

It was argued before the judge that Brandeis were entitled as of right to recover £3,588 damages based on the fall of the price of copper between August 16-26, 1976, and May 27, 1977, and £2,800 damages based on interest paid to their banks from September 9, 1976, until May 27, 1977.

For the appellants it was argued *that there was no general rule* of law that damages for detention should be assessed by reference to the difference between the market value of the goods at the time when they should have been delivered up and their market value at the time when they were in fact delivered up. It was conceded that, if Brandeis had been copper merchants who had acquired the copper to trade on the market, then the measure of damages contended for might well be the correct one. On the facts that was not the purpose for which Brandeis had acquired the copper, and such a measure of damages was inappropriate.

It was further submitted that as Brandeis had made no attempt to prove that their business had been adversely affected by the detention of the copper they were entitled either to no damages at all, or to nominal damages at most. The judge accepted Brandeis's contentions and gave judgment for them.

His Lordship could not see why on principle there should be any universally applicable rule for assessing damages for wrongful detention of goods. Damages in tort were awarded by way of monetary compensation for a loss or losses which a *plaintiff* actually sustained, and the measure of damages awarded on that basis might vary *infinitely* according to the circumstances of any particular case.

It was for plaintiffs to prove what loss, if any, they had suffered by reason of a tort, and when, as here, the effect of the tort was potentially adverse interference with the course of their business operations, it was for them to establish by evidence that there was in fact such adverse interference, and that they suffered a properly quantifiable loss by reason of it. If that was what Brandeis were required in law to *do, it was clear that* they had wholly failed to do so.

His Lordship approached the case on the basis that it was for Brandeis to prove that they had actually suffered the two items of loss claimed. On the claim based on the fall in the price of copper they had not proved their case at all. They had acquired the copper not for sale on the market at a *profit*, but to use as a raw material in their business. They were not deprived of the opportunity of selling the copper on the market at the price ruling on the date when the detention first began; nor were they obliged to sell it at the much lower price ruling on the date the copper was delivered up.

As to the claim based on interest, it did not matter much whether Brandeis financed the purchase of the copper from their own resources or by borrowing from the bank. If they used their own resources, they would lose the interest which they would otherwise have earned by investing the money so used. If they borrowed from the bank, they would have to pay interest on the amount so borrowed.

The difficulty was that they adduced no evidence to show that if the copper had not been detained, it would have been processed into cathodes, the cathodes sold, and the proceeds of sale applied in reduction of their overdraft, by any particular date. It was quite possible, if Brandeis held substantial stocks of copper at the Elkington refineries or elsewhere, that the detention of the copper did not delay its processing at all: it merely meant that it was stored for the period of the detention at the appellants' premises instead of being stored in its usual place at the refineries. If that were the case, Brandeis's position as to reducing their overdraft would have been exactly the same with the detention as without it.

It was not for the appellants to prove that the loss of interest was not in fact suffered by Brandeis. It was for Brandeis to satisfy the court, by appropriate evidence about the way in which their business was carried on, that all or part of the alleged loss was actually sustained. In fact what Brandeis did was to resist discovery of such documents as might have been material to those matters, and to adduce no evidence with regard to them at the trial. In those circumstances Brandeis's second item of claim was no better established than their first, and failed.

Accordingly, Brandeis, having failed to prove the only case on substantial damages which they set out to prove, were not entitled to recover such damages. Instead, they were entitled, on the basis that their right to possession of the copper was infringed, to nominal damages only.

His Lordship would allow the appeal, set aside the judge's award, and substitute a judgment for Brandeis in the nominal sum of £5.

Lord Justice Donaldson and Lord Justice Ackner agreed.

Solicitors: Herbert Smith & Co; Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandyk.

Queen's Bench Division

Export body gave negligent advice

Culford Metal Industries Ltd v Export Credits Guarantee Department

Before Mr Justice Neill

[Judgment delivered March 16]

The Export Credits Guarantee Department—a government department—were found liable in negligence on a claim by an English company that the department had given them bad advice. The company, Culford Metal Industries Ltd, said that because of the department's advice they were uninsured when German contractors failed to pay them for contracts they had carried out in Saudi Arabia.

Mr Raymond Kidwell, QC, and Mr E. W. H. Christie for Culfords; Mr Anthony Grabiner for the department.

MR JUSTICE NEILL said that the powers of the Export Credits Guarantee Department were currently derived from the Export Guarantees and Overseas Investment Act 1978, a consolidating Act. Although the Act was not in force until July, 1978, both *parties accepted its provisions as* being a guide to the state of the law in 1977.

The Secretary of State was empowered through the department to give export guarantees to manufacturers in this country for the purpose of encouraging trade with other countries. The credit insurance made available was widely used and of major importance to the export trade. It insured the manufacturer or other exporter against the risk of not being paid by the foreign buyer because of insolvency or other causes.

Insurance cover provided by the department fell into two categories: comprehensive and specific comprehensive cover constituted the department's main business; it applied where the exporter had a regular export business and its provision was the primary function of regional offices. Specific cover was appropriate where the exporter had no established export business or where complex financial arrangements were needed.

In order to bring its facilities to the public notice, the department published booklets and advertisements. One was a leaflet entitled "Specific policy", where the role of the regional representative was portrayed: ". . . he is there to assist the exporter to get the most benefit from ECGD insurance. It is his job to see that no misunderstandings arise. . . . ECGD officials are the only British experts in the field of export credit insurance underwriting risks outside the field of insolvency." An advertisement in the *Financial Times* quoted a customer who had been helped by the department: "It makes all the difference when you know you're insured against not getting paid."

In many cases the relevant contract with which the department was concerned was between the exporter here and a buyer abroad where the exporter was insured by the department against the risk of his not being paid. The present case was more complicated and involved not only the department but also its German counterpart, Hermes Versicherung AG.

Culford Metal Industries Ltd were fabricators and erectors of metal windows and ornamental metalwork. The business consisted mainly of sub-contracting to large contractors. They *had* never carried out any export business directly, and their first venture abroad was in April, 1977, when they entered into two contracts with a German contractor, Beton-und-Monierbau AG, for the supply of metalwork to the Saudi Arabian Government for two sports stadiums in Jeddah and Daman.

His Lordship referred to the contractual terms. The two contracts were in German and were governed by German law. The conditions of payment provided for stage payments on arrival of material at the site and payment by the client to the main contractor B und M. The clauses raised the question whether the viability of B und M to Culfords was conditional or unconditional; if the former was the case payment by the *Saudi Government* would be a condition precedent to any liability on B und M to pay Culfords, but it was not necessary to decide that point.

B und M had entered into a Hermes insurance and the contract provided that "the subcontractor will be charged with a proportion of the costs of the insurance". The role of Hermes was less than clear, and the German company later told Culfords that Hermes cover was not *automatic and that Culfords* would have to take the initiative to be included in the cover.

Consequently, Culfords, having seen the booklet and the advertisement in the *Financial Times*, contacted the department's head office, where they were referred to the department's regional office. At a later meeting one of the contracts, in German with a professional translation, was submitted to a Mr Taylor for his advice. Culfords explained the nature of the transactions, that it was their first venture into export and they asked for advice on all aspects of the contracts.

His Lordship considered the different aspects of the insurance situation. Firstly, the Saudi risk. Hermes had insured B und M against the risk that no money would be paid to them by the Saudi Government, and provided that the contract between B und M and Culfords was unconditional Hermes could have included Culfords on the B und M cover. However, whereas Hermes could give no cover to Culfords in the case of a conditional contract the department could do so. The main cover which the department provided was for the German risk: non-payment by B und M to Culfords as Hermes could not have covered that risk in any event.

Therefore, as a matter of urgency, Culfords asked to be advised on what cover would give them maximum protection.

The department advised Culfords by telex that if Culfords were included in the B and M insurance they would be covered by Hermes insurance and only if they were not covered by Hermes should they provide the department with further information. B and M con*firmed that Culfords were fully* included with them, and Culfords thought there the matter rested.

His Lordship referred to the fact that Hermes could not and would never have covered the German risk in a situation such as the present, and it was accepted that, except in special circumstances, all exporters who wanted credit insurance expected to get cover against the persons with whom they were in direct contractual relations.

For the department Mr Grabiner submitted that either Culfords *did* not want the German risk covered at all or that they were responsible for misleading the department in that they made it unclear what cover was *required*.

His Lordship did not think it right after a lapse of four years to find as a fact that Culfords had specifically mentioned the German risk, yet he was satisfied that they were concerned for the *German risk and that Culfords* had that in mind when they were looking for cover.

However, as a result of the department's preoccupation, both that the contracts were not of an ordinary unconditional type with which such a large amount of their business was concerned, and due to the confusing contractual documents, the department had overlooked what an exporter with the lack of experience of Culfords might properly expect to be advised about: cover against the German risk.

Culfords had gone to the department for advice, and although their request was put less clearly than it might have been, sufficient of the facts had been put before the department for Culfords to have expected that they had received advice as to cover against the German risk. Moreover because of the terms of the department's telex Culfords were put off their guard and were led to believe that provided they were covered by Hermes it was not necessary for them to take any further action.

Thus the cover which they ought to have had—the cover which would have protected them—they were without. Therefore the department had failed in their duty of care on the basis of the principles laid down in *Hedley Byrne v Heller & Partners* ([1964] AC 465) and on the issue of liability Culfords were entitled to succeed.

Solicitors: Saunders, Sobell, Leigh & Dobin; Treasury Solicitor.

Interim payments

Allan Harris & Sons Ltd v Ashby Demolition Ltd

Mr Justice Dillon, in the Chancery Division, ordered, on an application by Allan Harris & Sons Ltd for interim payments under Order 29, rule 18 of the Rules of the Supreme Court as amended and extended by Order 29, rules 9-12, Ashby Demolition Ltd to make interim payments on account of their liability in respect of the use and occupation of land at Winkleigh aerodrome, Devon, for the period from June 2, 1980, when the land was conveyed to Harris, until judgment in the action for possession or further order.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the *master* had made an order for interim payments from the date of issue of the writ on October 16, 1980, only, because of the reference in Order 29 rule 12(b) to the defendant's liability to pay to the plaintiff a sum in respect of the defendant's use and occupation of land while the action was pending, which limited the court's discretion to order payments for the period prior to the issue of the writ. Since Order 29, rules 11 and 12 were intended to cover the broad spectrum of all possible money claims and because rule 11(1)(c) and 12(c) were also available to found a claim, it was not right that the general discretion of the court under Order 29, rule 18 to order a defendant to make interim payments should automatically preclude the making of any order in respect of a properly pleaded claim for use and occupation of land prior to the issue of a writ.

Harris had claimed payments from June, 1979, when Ashby took possession of the land, but since, at the end of the day, Harris might be bound by the rights of Ashby as against their vendor who had put Ashby into occupation of the land, and as under Order 29, rules 11 and 12 account had to be taken of any set-off to which Harris were entitled as against their vendors quoad any payments for use and occupation down to the date of their conveyance, on which Ashby was entitled to rely, it was not appropriate to make an order for interim payments prior to June 2, 1980.

It was not proper when deciding whether an interim order should be granted to consider that the commencement of payments from the later date of the issue of the writ would afford the defendant security for costs. A separate application could be made for security on proper evidence.

Cricket

Butcher finds form and saves England from embarrassment

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Montserrat, March 24

When did a Barbadian save England from defeat in a crown colony? It happened here today and could become a quiz question in years to come. Needing 174 to beat Leeward Islands, England were in danger of losing until Roland Butcher took matters into his own hands. He finished with 77 not out and England got home by five wickets.

A combination of good slow bowling, dubious umpiring and hesitant English batting had given the Leewards their chance of a famous victory. Only twice since the war have England (or MCC) been beaten in the West Indies other than in a test match or a one day international, each time by Barbados—in 1959-60 and 1973-74. Until Richards and Roberts were discovered, the Leewards used to come like lambs to the slaughter.

Yet here they were without Richards, who was being married in Antigua today, and Roberts, who was at the wedding, giving England a much closer run than they cared for. If the match were to be replayed with the same umpires and in similar conditions and with England having to bat first rather than second, I would not be at all sure how it would go.

In Noel Guishard, from St Kitts, the Leewards have a fine young all-rounder. He is 23 and was always in the game, removing Boycott and Gatting in his first over this morning and being not out in both innings. Kelly, Lewis, Amory and Williams showed the natural talent which comes of being born in these parts; so unfortunately for the Leewards did Butcher, who until now had had a disappointing few weeks.

The day began with Guishard and Newton making another 28 for the Leewards' last wicket. Any ideas that England would have things all their own way were therefore soon discarded. Dilley bowled stupidly short; Old, pitching to a much fuller length, was driven for six by Guishard.

After 40 minutes England went in, with time to spare. But with no faith in the umpiring and against an attack that had shown in the first innings that it was not to be sniffed at. With the Montserratians back at work there were very few people present on a lovely morning and with the sea pounding against the boundary fence.

Downton was out in the tenth over, caught at first slip; he drove at Ryan's medium pace without getting his foot to the ball. Athey, however, played from the start like a man unaffected by the disasters and setbacks of the tour. For the second wicket he and Boycott had added 31 in half an hour with a good piece of batting when Guishard, with his first ball, had Boycott leg before thrusting his front foot outside the off stump and playing no stroke. Boycott was as surprised to be given out as Gatting was two balls later, caught at short leg.

Poor Gatting! In his first first-class innings of the tour, on January 23, he scored an excellent 94; he waited six weeks for another, since when he has batted twice against Barbados, twice in the third Test match and twice here against the Leewards and scored 39. A tour which started with such promise is fast becoming a nightmare for him.

At 73 Athey was caught at short leg off an off break that turned, having played several strokes of the highest class through the off side. In the days between Athey's arrival from Australia and Ken Barrington's death, Barrington was greatly impressed by Athey's technique. This, I am sure, will be the first of many tours for Athey and he has started it well.

When, at 109, Miller became the third batsmen out of four to have to keep a stiff upper lip—some were stiffer than others today—it was a shade of odds on the Leewards winning. Miller was given leg before when well on the front foot to Virgil Newton, a slow left armer, but Butcher was finding his form by now. With Bairstow being dropped at slip when he was six, the last 65 runs came in 55 minutes. Butcher played some glorious strokes, enjoying himself at last and saving the team from an unwanted embarrassment.

LEEWARD ISLANDS: First innings, 161 (A. L. Kelly 73; G. R. Dilley 5 for 48, G. B. Stevenson 5 for 50).
Second innings
A. L. Kelly, c Downton, b Old .. 17
*V. A. Amory, b Miller .. 56
E. E. Lewis, l-b-w, b Miller .. 36
S. I. Williams, b Dilley .. 62
E. Ryan, l-b-w, b Jackman .. 0
D. R. Parry, c Miller, b Old .. 21
J. E. Archibald, l-b-w, b Dilley .. 2
N. Guishard, not out .. 42
A. White, c and b Old .. 4
J. B. Harris, b Miller .. 5
V. Newton, c Downton, b Dilley .. 6
Extras (l-b 6, n-b 6) .. 12
Total .. 265
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—35, 2—106, 3—125, 4—121, 5—190, 6—198, 7—202, 8—216, 9—235, 10—265.
BOWLING: Dilley, 16—3—50—3; Old, 18—3—50—3; Stevenson, 11—1—64—0; Miller, 13—2—42—3; Jackman, 12—2—35—1.

ENGLAND: First Innings, 251 (G. Miller 91 not out, G. Boycott 72; N. Guishard 4 for 34).
Second Innings
G. Boycott, l-b-w, b Guishard .. 15
†P. R. Downton, c Guishard, b Ryan .. 9
C. W. J. Athey, c Kelly, b Parry .. 37
M. W. Gatting, c Kelly, b Guishard .. 0
R. O. Butcher, not out .. 77
*G. Miller, l-b-w, b Newton .. 14
D. L. Bairstow, not out .. 13
Extras (b 5, l-b 1, n-b 2) .. 8
Total (5 wkts) .. 174
G. B. Stevenson, R. D. Jackman, C. M. Old and G. R. Dilley did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—14, 2—45, 3—45, 4—73, 5—109.
BOWLING: White, 5—1—16—0; Ryan, 6—3—16—1; Guishard, 15—1—33—2; Harris, 12—3—35—0; Parry, 14—3—38—1; Newton, 6—1—23—1; Amory, 0.1—0—1—0.
Umpires: T. Brumbell and P. White.

Lancashire chase Holding

Michael Holding, generally reckoned to be the fastest bowler in the world, seems certain to be playing for Lancashire this season.

The county have approached his Lancashire League Club, Rishton, and the club committee will discuss the matter when they meet next Monday.

The Rishton secretary, Harry Crabtree, said: " I don't expect any problems. We will probably give Lancashire permission to sign Holding on a part-time basis."

Holding, the West Indies fast bowler, played some second team games for Lancashire in 1977 when he was recovering from a shoulder injury. Lancashire's need for a fast bowler is urgent. They have torn up Malone's contract and Hogg, their other new ball specialist, has moved to Warwickshire.

Squash rackets

Hunt fights until he drops but Jahangir has last word

By Rex Bellamy
Squash rackets correspondent

Jahangir Khan took a 2—1 lead in his personal series with Geoff Hunt, 16 years his senior, by beating the world champion 9—1, 9—0, 4—9, 9—4, 9—6 in the final of the Patrick Festival tournament at Chichester last evening. The match lasted two hours and 11 minutes and ended with the astonishing spectacle of Hunt, a suddenly broken man, "dying" as a competitor.

The fifth game was contested at an incredibly ferocious pace and an equally incredible level of skill considering all that had gone before. Hunt fought back from 1—5 to 6—all, but could play no more squash. His legs had gone. His racket had the fragility of a wand. He could neither run nor hit. The last three points were a formality. Thus a great match expired into pathos and, to some extent, bathos too.

Inevitably the length and nature of the match reasonably invited comparison with Hunt's mighty battles against Jonah Barrington a decade ago. Just as accurate a parallel was that memorable tennis match between Ricardo Gonzales and Charles Pasarell at Wimbledon. Much of last evening's sporting epic was monotonously admirable because both men cared too much about winning to indulge their sense of adventure.

But because of the pace at which they played, the punishment they absorbed, and the mounting drama of this torrid battle, an aura of greatness gradually settled upon the endeavours of two marvellous athletes who were prepared to fight until they dropped—which is more or less what Hunt did. He stayed on his feet only because Australians have never learned how to fall.

Jahangir had to change his racket three times because of the wear and tear. A ball was burst. Between games, the spattered sweat darkening the court had to be mopped up. Hunt's fair hair became blackened with perspiration that soaked upwards from the neck like a wave of tiredness. But when Hunt was 4—1 up in the fourth game his momentum seemed irresistible and there were hints that Jahangir's mental stamina was ebbing.

Then Jahangir won 13 out of 14 points. Hunt became increasingly (and uncharacteristically) prone to question decision, and that last burst to 6-all in the fifth game turned out to be the dregs of Hunt's physical resources. It seemed irrelevant that Jahangir won £1,800 and Hunt £1,200. A match like this transcended such prosaic details.

WOMENS FINAL: Miss V. Hoffman beat Miss S. Cogswell, 9—2, 9—3, 9—1.

Football

Progressive England team which taps the strength of Ipswich

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Partly through necessity but not entirely without design, England's manager, Ron Greenwood, yesterday opened the way for a younger team to make their mark in today's friendly international game against Spain at Wembley (7.45). Butcher and Osman, the defensive foundation of the successful Ipswich Town side, and Hoddle, of Tottenham Hotspur, join a team which is also made more appealing by the return of Francis and Keegan.

A defence of Clemence, Neal, Butcher, Osman and Sansom is as expected and marks an interruption in the long and often invaluable service of Watson. The midfield has the youthful determination of Robson, the light and skilful touch of Hoddle and the experience of Brooking. The attack taps another of Ipswich's strengths in Mariner who is joined by Francis and will have Keegan as the third man, provided a cold gets no worse. Somewhat obscurely, Mr Greenwood chooses Barnes, an orthodox winger, as Keegan's possible replacement.

In concert such a team should have a fine balance and be effective enough to give Spain, the hosts of the next World Cup, a difficult game. Inevitably, the appearance of Osman, Butcher and Hoddle, all 22-year-olds, encourages thoughts that Mr Greenwood is looking towards that World Cup, but he prefers to say that he wants to be sure that such players can help England, if required, for the remaining qualifying matches which resume against Romania next month.

As England boast a healthy number of efficient midfield players, his argument is understandable in the case of Hoddle, whose talents need developing at international level. Hoddle has much to play for this evening. As for the centre backs, Mr Greenwood still has an understandable affection for Thompson, who is injured, and Watson, whom he has dropped in order to reproduce the Ipswich link. Yet Butcher and Osman would surely need to have disastrous matches to spoil the chance of becoming the partnership of the future. Butcher, the larger and less nimble of the two, may have the more difficult task.

Osman and Butcher have developed through Ipswich's youth teams and won their first England caps against Australia last year. Both began their sporting careers as rugby players at grammar school and Osman captained England schools. Yesterday they confirmed that recent good progress had been encouraged by playing with the Dutchmen, Thijssen and Muhren.

Hoddle has won four caps but has not played since the European Championship last summer. This season he has sometimes appeared lethargic yet he has the rare ability to alter the course of a game with a perceptive pass or outstanding goal. Mr Greenwood said this perception had never been doubted and these days he had an increased capacity for working harder in the demanding area of midfield.

In theory the England team contains six changes from the last match against Switzerland. Mr Greenwood still insists on the goalkeepers taking turns and as Shilton was absent there was no question of a change in policy. Mills is injured and Coppell and McDermott have slight strains and will be among the substitutes. Woodcock is omitted because Francis is available and so Mariner retains his place.



Osman (left) and Butcher: England pairing of the future.

Mr Greenwood said the choice between Mariner and Woodcock was not particularly difficult. He said Mariner had been playing exceptionally well but he was too diplomatic to mention that Woodcock, by his own admission, had been having a lean time in the West German league.

England's 2—1 win over Switzerland four months ago was completed to the sounds of the crowd's disapproval. The reaction was uncharitable in view of the restrictions that injuries imposed. Tonight the crowd can be more easily forgiven for a discriminating attitude because better players are available and Spain are fielding an experimental side.

Spain, who are not required to qualify for the World Cup, have twice lost to England in the past year. Their 2—0 defeat at home last March was the result of a splendid performance by England. At the time Mr Greenwood was on course for a successful European Championship. But that was Francis's last international game before a cruel Achilles tendon injury probably cost him 10 caps and England much of their attacking sharpness.

Since Spain last lost to England, by 2—1 in the European Championship, they have appointed the former Real Madrid player, José Santamaria, as manager, but his work so far has not merited ideas that Spain can become the third successive host nation to win the World Cup. Recently they beat France with a penalty in Madrid and some indication of dissatisfaction can be seen from the fact that tonight's team has four changes.

The captain remains the superb goalkeeper, Arconada, but the manager admitted yesterday: "Many of this team may well not figure in my final World Cup plans." One hopes that Mr Greenwood will not be drawn to similar conclusions about some of his selections.

ENGLAND: R. Clemence (Liverpool); P. Neal (Liverpool); T. Butcher (Ipswich); R. Osman (Ipswich); K. Sansom (Arsenal); G. Hoddle (Tottenham); B. Robson (West Bromwich); T. Brooking (West Ham); T. Francis (Nottingham Forest); P. Mariner (Ipswich); K. Keegan (Southampton) or P. Barnes (West Bromwich).

SPAIN: Arconada, Camacho, Tendillo, Macedo, Gordillo, Joaquin, Victor, Zamora, Marcos, Satrustegui, Juanito.

Alvin Martin, West Ham United's central defender, and the Manchester City midfield player Mackenzie win their first caps for England B against Spain B at Granada today. Corrigan, the Machester City goalkeeper, captains a team that hopes to repeat the 1—0 victory over Spain B at Sunderland last year.

ENGLAND B: J. Corrigan (Manchester City), B. Batson (West Bromwich), D. Statham (West Bromwich), S. Williams (Southampton), A. Martin (West Ham), S. Elliott (Sunderland), A. Morley (Aston Villa), S. Mackenzie (Manchester City), A. Sunderland (Arsenal), K. Reeves (Manchester City), G. Rix (Arsenal).

Robertson can teach Scotland to be patient

By Stuart Jones

Forty-five sunlit minutes in Israel were enough to convince Jock Stein that he was on the right road to the World Cup finals in Spain next year. After an opening that was anything but bright last month, Mr Stein changed Scotland's approach by word and formation, by deed during the interval and saw his side emerge from their dark confusion to win by the only goal.

Having wasted three-quarters of an hour there, he has decided to retain 10 of the team that finished the match in Tel Aviv for the tie against Northern Ireland at Hampden Park tonight. Two Liverpudlian representatives, Dalglish and Souness, are missing through injury and so Miller and Andy Gray, second-half substitutes in Israel, keep their places, as does Wark, who hobbled off.

"My main hope is that the players start where they left off," Mr Stein said yesterday. If that is so, Burns will continue to lend strength if not speed to midfield rather than to the middle of the back four, his usual position for Nottingham Forest, where McLeish will partner his Aberdonian colleague, Miller.

The absence of Dalglish and Souness, which could be crucial, does not worry Mr Stein. "The game is not about the players who are missing. It is about those who are available at the time". He did not need reminding that Northern Ireland, without players from Arsenal and Forest, won 1—0 in the home internationals last year.

The presence of Burns will at least allow Wark the freedom to go forward in search of what has become a familiar target this season. Gemmill, Scotland's ageing captain who turned down the chance of a lucrative visit to the United States in favour of his country's ambitions, is likely to look merely for his form.

Mr Stein admitted that "we need to be sharper up front than we were against Portugal". Although there will be no shortage of movement from Archibald and Andy Gray, a more important role belongs to Robertson, particularly since Dalglish will not be there to delay when necessary and especially since Scotland will need to be patient.

Although Mr Stein sees defence as the strongest part of the Irish game, it will be surprising if they do not go forward with a smile, with a twinkle in their eyes. As was shown last year when they were crowned home international champions, it is dangerous to underestimate them.

Billy Bingham will not announce his side until shortly before the kick-off but he learnt that his choice was limited still further yesterday when O'Neill failed a fitness test on his ankle. Cassidy and Brotherston have already withdrawn but McIlroy is likely to have recovered from a knee injury in time to lead the side.

A teasing question on Mr Bingham's mind is who to pick as goalkeeper. Jennings, with 83 caps, is available but Platt has made no errors in the past eight internationals. It would be harsh to drop him and yet to see Jennings on the substitutes' bench would be almost unthinkable. Platt, himself, fears the worst.

If Scotland win here and in the return against Israel next month, then they are almost assured of a place in the Spanish sun. The Irish, though, themselves with three home games to come, are nothing if not unpredictable. As Mr Bingham said yesterday: "I prefer to play matters by ear and see how they develop."

SCOTLAND: A. Rough (Patrick Thistle); D. McGrain (Celtic), W. Miller (Aberdeen), A. McLeish (Aberdeen), F. Gray (Nottingham Forest), K. Burns (Nottingham Forest), J. Wark (Ipswich Town), A. Gemmill (Birmingham City), S. Archibald (Tottenham Hotspur), A. Gray (Wolverhampton Wanderers), J. Robertson (Nottingham Forest). Substitutes: W. Thomson (St Mirren), D. Narey (Dundee United), R. Stewart (West Ham United), A. Hartford (Everton), J. Jordan (Manchester United).

NORTHERN IRELAND: (from) P. Jennings (Arsenal), J. Platt (Middlesbrough); J. Nicholl (Manchester United), C. Nicholl (Southampton), J. O'Neill (Leicester City), M. Donaghy (Luton Town), S. Nelson (Arsenal), J. McClelland (Mansfield Town), S. McIlroy (Manchester United), D. McCreery (Queens Park Rangers), T. Cochrane (Middlesbrough), G. Armstrong (Watford), D. Spence (Southend United), W. Hamilton (Burnley), T. Finney (Cambridge United).

Golf

An untimely exit for Coles and partner

By John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent

The holders of the Sunningdale foursomes, Neil Coles and Doug McClelland, were beaten rather ignominiously on the first extra hole of the New course yesterday, by two young thrusters, Clifford Potts, a 21-year-old Wentworth assistant, and Martin Wyld, a scratch golfer from Lancashire.

There was little between them for most of the match and the surprising thing is that, when the heat was on, it was the younger pair who had the cooler heads. They had seen a lead slip away three times on the outward half and stood one down on the 17th. A bunkered tee-shot by Wyld surely signalled the end, but he made amends with a 25ft putt to keep the match alive.

Coles then made a hash of the last (477 yards), first burying his tee-shot in the trees and then under-clubbing to the green, so that Potts and Wyld, against all expectations, levelled the match with a five. Their young muscles put them on the first green (466 yards) with a drive and 3-wood and Coles and McClelland, out of range, were out in the cold.

The 1979 winners also went out in sad circumstances. Roger Chapman, a former English champion, surveyed his pitched shot to the last green of the Old course with an eight-iron at the ready and his match against two Coombe Hill assistants, Gary Torbett and Renny Smith, all square. On the advice of his professional partner, George Will, he exchanged the club for a seven-iron a[…] stunned to see the ba[…] through the green and […] bounds.

Peter Mills was one of […] ber of Ryder Cup players […] field, but, unlike the oth[…] has reverted to his amateu[…] and this was his first com[…] since the change. It was […] lived. Partnering Arnold S[…] another old stalwart, […] beaten 2 and 1 on the New […] by two amateurs, Hugh […] and John Roger Jones, […] Welsh stroke-play ch[…] both. Evans and Jones we[…] up at the turn, and, a[…] Mills and Stickley hole[…] good putts coming hom[…] could not close the gap.

Domestic harmony w[…] hanced by the survival of […] fathers-and-sons partnersh[…] the Alliss, Platts, Muscr[…] Foreman families. The […] faced one of our most su[…] women professionals, Jan[…] man, and a Yorkshire a[…] Roger Hughes, on the Old […] Father Alliss is an expan[…] well as expanding chara[…] befits a man who has left […] Royce in the car park […] the number plate PUT […]

His putting frailty is no[…] thing of a byword, to […] amusement now that serio[…] petition is a thing of th[…] Thus when a catatonic […] three feet at the last off[…] kind of threat to the […] showed no irritation. Given […] foot shorter at the exer[…] for a five against his opp[…] six, he somehow fluked […] was hardly a Rolls-Royce […]

Results at Sunningdale

FIRST ROUND: M. G. Colwill and W. P. Brogdon (+1) 2 holes C. R. Dell and M. D. Lovegrove (+1); T. Clements and A. C. Rattue (+1) 3 and 2 Miss L. Moore and M. Boggis (6); R. Foreman and M. Foreman (+1) 3 and 1 M. Bennett and G. Border (+1); R. Wooller and G. Cowlishaw (+2) 6 and 5 A. W. Reynolds and G. C. Norton (+2).

L. Platts and C. Platts (+1) 8 and 7 G. Hawkings and Miss J. Hawkings (6); M. Corlass and M. J. Best (+1) at 19th R. M. Mandeville and M. Pendle (+1); A. P. Barr and J. Nudds [illegible]

[illegible]

(+2); B. Lane and C. Maudesley (scr) 6 and 4 T. Buckner and B. D. Lewis (+1); N. Adams and C. R. Jones (+1) at 19th G. T. Richie and A. Blackburn (+2); R. Whitehead and D. Simpson (+1) 6 and 5 R. D. A. Smith and M. L. Spearman (scr).

B. Patterson and D. Burrow (+1) 1 hole T. J. Giles and R. Larratt (+3); D. Nash and K. Spurgeon (+2) 3 and 2 D. Allen and R. Hutton (+2); R. Hunter and Miss A. Middleton (5) 3 and 2 J. Little and Mrs S. W. Wooldridge (6); M. Stokes and S. Ling (scr) 5 and 4 F. D. Lafford and M. J. Brosnan (scr).

P. Barber and S. Bennett […] and 3 S. Wood and D. P. Wel[…] M. McLean and P. G. Way […] and 3 G. Coles and H. Rober[…] R. Wyer and I. Read (+2) […] S. Vardigans and T. Nicholas […] R. Loe and G. M. Dunsire (sc[…] 3 S. Thiel and A. Drake (sc[…] A. Black and P. Russell (sc[…] 3 N. Bedward and J. Hoskiso[…] K. R. MacDonald and R. C. […] (+2) 2 holes C. Stedman an[…] Davies (scr); A. L. Strange an[…] Jones (+1) 7 and 5 M. J. […] R. Burgess (+2); T. L. Park[…]

[illegible]

Roalson (+2) P. Chapman […] Bull (+1) 5 and 4 A. Lees an[…] Maxwell (+2) R. Povall […] Johnson (scr) 7 and 6 G. Th[…] and A. MacDonald (scr).

Evans and Miss Lowe 3 […] Pook and Latham. Bart[…] Sargent 4 and 3. Kynbery and M[…] Parish and Attinger 7 and 5 St[…] Donovan. Elridge and Benson […] McLean and Wyatt; Allisses at 1[…] Chapman and Hughes. Few a[…] 2 and 1 Miss Hamilton and Ha[…] and Stupple 5 and 3 Noakes an[…] more. Grant and MacLaren 2 […] Hunt and Summers.

Carefree Turks may give Wales problems

Ankara, March 24.—Wales face Turkey in a World Cup qualifying match here tomorrow confident of a victory which will take them a step nearer the 1982 finals in Spain. The Welsh lead group three with three wins and no defeats and have already soundly beaten Turkey in Cardiff 4—0 last October.

But the Turks, their pride stung by three defeats in three games—in particular a humiliating 3—1 home loss to Iceland last September—have adopted a new approach and a new team since the Cardiff defeat.

Their side, full of youth and inexperience, was put together by Ozkan Sumer, appointed manager after the Welsh defeat. Though beaten 2—0 by Czechoslovakia they showed enough spirit and style to warrant continued faith.

The Welsh team will be named shortly before the kick-off and will probably include Crystal Palace's Boyle, who scored in his first appearance for Wales last month against the Republic of Ireland.

Wales are without their busy midfield player, Thomas, who suffered a leg injury on Saturday, but Mr England did not believe his absence could affect the result. "We are here to beat Turkey. The road to Spain runs from Ankara", he said. "This could be the golden year for Wales", he added.

Turkish officials believe their side could well surprise the Welsh, if only because they can afford to relax. They have little to play for except their pride and a more successful future.

Their side, to be announced tomorrow, is captained by the veteran goalkeeper, Senol, one of the few of the old guard retained my Mr Sumer. It is also expected to include Tuncay, who missed the Czechoslovakia game after being booked in the Welsh match.

The 35,000-capacity May 19 Stadium where the match will be played, was waterlogged today after a storm, but the weather forecast for tomorrow was good and the pitch was expected to have dried out in time.

WALES (from): D. Davies (Swansea City), D. Folgate (Lincoln City), P. Price (Luton Town), T. Yorath (Tottenham Hotspur), J. Jones (Wrexham), L. Phillips (Swansea City), K. Ratcliffe (Everton), B. Flynn (Leeds United), P. Nicholas (Arsenal), D. Giles (Swansea City), L. James (Swansea City), S. Lovell (Crystal Palace), J. Charles (Swansea City), C. Harris (Leeds United), T. Boyle (Crystal Palace).

TURKEY (from): Senol, Husnu, Necati, Gungor, Tuncay, Yasar, Serkel, Onur, Sedat, Sedat III, Muzaffer, Necdet, Halil, Ibrahim, Sinan, Volkan, Muammer, Zafer.—Reuter.

Results

Second division
Preston (0) 1 Bolton (1) 2
Bruce Reid, Gowling 8,508

Third division
Oxford U (0) 1 Barnsley (0) 1
Cassells Glavin 4,705

Fourth division
Halifax (1) 1 Crewe (0) 0
McIlwraith 2,266
Tranmere (0) 1 Port Vale (1) 2
Evans Beech,
1,479 N. Chamberlain
York (1) 1 Peterboro (2) 2
Randall Cooke (2)
1,735

Scottish premier division
Kilmarnock (1) 2 Hearts (0) 0
Mauchlin, McLean

Scottish first division
Clydebank (0) 1 St Johnstone (1) 3
B. Millar McNeil, McCoist, Caldwell
E Stirling (0) 0 Raith (0) 1
Russell
Stirling A (0) 0 Dundee (0) 1
Murphy

Scottish second division
Brechin (1) 2 Queen o' S (0) 1
Graham (2) Alexander
Cowdenbth (0) 3 Stranraer (0) 0
Forrest, Steele, Liddle
East Fife (0) 0 Clyde (0) 1
Edgar
Montrose (0) 0 Forfar (0) 0

Anglo-Scottish Cup
Final, first leg
Chesterfield (1) 1 Notts Co (0) 0
Moss 10,190

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Czechoslovakia 0, Switzerland 1; France 2, Poland 1.

FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final round, first leg: West Ham United 5, Manchester City 0.

WORLD CUP: Asian group two: Saudi Arabia 2, Syria 0.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Stafford Rangers 2, Weymouth 0; Maidstone 2, Bath 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bridgend v Cambridge City postponed; Corby 1, Gloucester 4; Merthyr Tydfil 0, Bedworth 1; Milton Keynes 0, Enderby 3; Redditch 3, Witney 2; Trowbridge 0, Alvechurch 0. Southern division: Addlestone and Weybridge 0, Margate 0; Bognor Regis v Dover postponed; Crawley 2, Folkestone 1; Dorchester 5, Chelmsford 1; Fareham v Poole postponed; Gosport 1, Dartford 3; Hastings v Basingstoke postponed.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Cup: Semi-final round, first leg: Marine 2, Gainsborough 1; uncorn 3, Worksop 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Billericay 3, Hertford 0; Wembley 1, Kingstonian 1. Cup: Semi-final round, first leg: Bishop's Stortford 1, Slough 1; Hayes 1, Walthamstow Avenue 3.

Galliers banned for second time this season

Steve Galliers, Wimbledon's diminutive midfield player, was banned for four matches by an FA Disciplinary Committee in London yesterday. Galliers, who accumulated 40 points, was banned for three matches last November, when he reached 20 points.

He will miss Wimbledon's games at York on Saturday, home to Wigan Athletic next Tuesday, home to Doncaster Rovers on Saturday, April 4 and away to Northampton Town the following week.

Malcolm Waldron and Trevor Hebberd, two of Southampton's brightest young prospects, have signed for the North American Soccer League club Washington Diplomats.

Preston go down at Deepdale

Preston 1 Bolton 2

Bolton Wanderers showed an extra touch of class in this relegation battle to put their neighbours, Preston North End, deeper into trouble on a muddy Deepdale pitch last night. It was Bolton's first away win of the year and they were sent on their way by a goal from Reid.

Preston fought back in the second half but Bolton went further ahead when Gowling scored from close range in the sixty-sixth minute to atone for hitting the ball against his own crossbar. Gowling, Cantello and Nicholson were booked as Preston pushed forward to gain an eighty-third minute goal by Bruce.

Floyd lives again in sudden death

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, March 24.—Ray Floyd sunk a simple birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden death play-off to win the Tournament Players championship. He also took one of the biggest prizes in the history of golf here.

In addition to the $72,000 first prize for the victory Floyd collected a $250,000 bonus prize as the winner of two consecutive tournaments. Floyd won the Doral-Eastern Open in Miami last week.

LEADING SCORES: 285: R. Floyd, 73, 74, 71, 68 (won play off). C. Strange, 73, 72, 71, 70. B. Jaeckel, 69, 70, 72, 74; 287: M. Barber, 72, 78, 69, 68. J. Colbert, 78, 69, 69, 71. B. Lietzke, 73, 75, 68, 71. J. Simons, 73, 68, 75, 73; 288: L. Thompson, 71, 76, 72, 69. G. Hallberg, 71, 75, 72, 72; F. Conner (Australia), 74, 72, 70, 72. D. Halldorson (Canada), 70, 70, 74, 74; 289: L. Trevino, 73, 73, 70, 73; 293: S. Ballesteros (Spain), 77, 69, 72, 75. J. Nicklaus, 75, 68, 74, 76. British score: 299: P. Oosterhuis (GB), 75, 76, 72, 76.

Ballesteros ris[…] wrath of ETP[…]

Sanctions could be a[…] against Severiano Ballester[…] the European Tournament P[…] Division if they discove[…] infringement of their recen[…] sion to ban appearance […] being paid to any European […]

Ken Schofield, the ETPD […] tary who has just returned […] a visit to the Tournament P[…] Championship in the United S[…] made it clear in London yes[…] that they were determin[…] stamp out appearance mon[…] the European tour. He said […] with only one exception, they […] being backed in their effort […] year by the leading […] sponsors.

The demands of Ballester[…] play in Britain this season […] recently outlined to the le[…] sponsors at Wentworth. He […] to be paid $25,000 for […] appearance, plus other […] benefits, on top of any […] money he may win in each […]

Rugby Union

Irish selectors cheered by changes of heart

From an Irish Rugby Correspondent
Dublin, March 24

The Irish rugby selectors, faced with 11 withdrawals from the short tour of South Africa, from May 16 to June 6, heard yesterday that two others, David Irwin, an international centre from Queens University, and Colm Tucker, the 1980 Lions flanker from Shannon had changed their minds at the last moment. Irwin and Tucker were included, with some selectorial sighs of relief, among the 26 players named last night. Four players — Ward, Spring, Keane and MacNeill, the discovery of the season at full-back—were not available on "grounds of principle".

The result is that 10 uncapped players have been chosen, including Michael Kiernan, a 20-year-old winger from the Dolphin club in Cork.

IRISH SQUAD: J. Murphy (Greystones), K. A. O'Brien (Broughton Park); M. Kiernan (Dolphin), T. J. Kennedy (St. Mary's), A. C. McLennan (St. Mary's), K. Crossan (Instonians), D. G. Irwin (Queen's), A. Irwin (Queen's), J. A. Hewitt (N.I.F.C.); S. O Campbell (Old Belvedere), P. Dean (St. Mary's), J. C. Robbie (Greystones), R. J. McGrath (Wanderers), G. A. J. McLoughlin (Shannon), D. Fitzgerald (St. Mary's), P. A. Orr (Old Wesley), J. L. Cantrell (Blackrock), H. T. Harbison (U.C.D.), B. O. Foley (Shannon), G. Wallace (Old Wesley), J. J. Holland (Wanderers), J. F. Slattery (Blackrock, captain), J. B. O'Driscoll (London Irish), C. C. Tucker (Shannon), W. Duggan (Blackrock), M. E. Gibson (Lansdowne).

Hamlin's misses prove costly for Cheltenham

By Alan Gibson
Cheltenham 14 Bath 22

For many years this has been a celebrated West Country Kilkenny (perhaps not the aptest word, for they have never quite succeeded in eating each other up, but it makes a change from the endless "derby"). It has always amused me: the conflict of the Spa towns whose image, especially architectural, is always one of elegance, dignity and restraint, and here are their representatives, bashing away like bulldozers.

After five minutes Ralston kicked a penalty goal for Bath, a straightforward one, and after 10 minutes Michael Hamlin, the stand-off, missed an even easier one for Cheltenham. After 20 minutes, during which time Cheltenham had had more of the play and produced several good passing movements, he missed another, definitely more difficult. These misses proved important.

Bath then stirred themselves and Trick scored a try in the right-hand corner. Ralston had made the break in the middle of the field and Beese, whose positional sense is admirable even though his speed is less, carried it on. Ralston missed the conversion, but kicked a penalty. Cheltenham had another chance and Warren took over the kicking, but he too missed.

Then Trick scored a marvellous try. Cheltenham had been attacking, but Bath got the ball near their own line, Lewis came away with it, and Trick had it, still well in his own half. He cantered for some yards, stretched into a gallop and reached the line.

There was no conversion, but Cheltenham were 16—0 down at half time, which they did not deserve. However, they were not discouraged and early in the second half Dick scored a try on the right, a bit of a scramble but deserved by insistent pressure.

They scored again through Michael Hamlin, a capital try after a well-planned move, which was converted; and yet again, after Dick had made a dodging run through the middle, moved right, and rejoined the move to score himself. No conversion, but Cheltenham were now only two points down. They looked capable of winning it but Bath, whose defence had been wobbly, pulled themselves together and Lewis scored a try, which was converted, almost at the end.

This will probably be the last time I watch a match at the Athletic Ground, Albion Street, because Cheltenham are changing their headquarters next season.

CHELTENHAM: G. Minett; G. Owen, B. Bartlett, G. Warren, L. Dick; M. Hamlin, S. Hall; J. Hamer, Maurice Hamlin (captain), N. Smart, P. Geenly, G. Cornish, R. Roper, B. Hemmings, R. Lutterbach.

BATH: J. Waterman; D. Trick, M. Beese, C. Martin, P. Simmons; C. Ralston, S. Lewis; K. Neal, S. Luxmoore, R. Lee, A. Marriott, N. Williams, P. Turner, R. Lye (captain), S. Jones.

Referee: T. Thomas (North Midlands).

Cowley and Llandovery have the look of finalists

By Peter Marson

The national schoolboys seven-a-side tournament, organized by Rosslyn Park and now in its forty-third year, seems always to attract inclement weather.

For the first time the Open tournament kicked off on the pitches at KCS Old Boys and the University of London at Motspur Park. By the time the curtain is rung down on Friday evening 255 schools will have taken part in 499 matches.

For the first time too the Open ran along the lines of the Festival with groups of five schools playing each other.

Many of the matches yesterday were hard and keenly fought, though happily no single group looked to possess more than one outstanding school. Millfield were nothing like the side which won the tournament last year but St Edward's, Liverpool, whom Millfield met in the final, fielded four of last season's seven and played well enough to be sure of their group, and, perhaps, a place in the quarter-final round.

At that stage St Edward's are likely to meet Cowley, who with Llandovery have the look of finalists. Cowley have carried all before them his season, winning all 22 school matches, and in scoring 714 points against 36 did not have their line crossed. Already they have won four sevens tournaments and at Motspur Park yesterday, on the narrowest of pitches, they ran in 52 points against 10 from their three matches.

If they are a well balanced seven, brimful of running and flair, then the same can be said of Llandovery: in their first match in the morning they ran in 42 points against Verulam and then beat a strong seven from West Park 20—12. Llandovery, who triumphed in the Hereford tournament, field a key player in Rees-Evans, a 19-year-old centre who has appeared in the scarlet shirt of Llanelli in nine senior matches.

Ampleforth, with an unbeaten season behind them, are another excellent seven and they have been successful in two tournaments. Group winners should include: King Henry VIII, St Joseph's, Blackheath, St Mary's, Liverpool, Cheshunt, Aylesbury, London Oratory, Cwmtawe, Queen's Taunton, Belmont Abbey, Wirral, St Benedict's, Royal Belfast and De La Salle.

GROUP A: St Olave's 6, Loughborough 12; Wimbledon 14, Windsor 6; Chichester 4, Loughborough 16; Windsor 4, St Olave's 6; St Olave's 30, Chichester 0; Wimbledon 12, Loughborough 12; Windsor 20, Chichester 0; St Olave's 18, Wimbledon 10; Chichester 0, Wimbledon 30; Loughborough 18, Windsor 4.

GROUP B: Solihull 22, Chislehurst and Sidcup 0; Haydon (Middlesex) 12, King's Worcester 20; Ampleforth 24, Chislehurst and Sidcup 0; King's Worcester 4, Solihull 10; Ampleforth 22, Haydon 14; Chislehurst and Sidcup 6, King's Worcester 7; Ampleforth 10, Solihull 22; Haydon 6; Ampleforth 10, Haydon 15; Chislehurst and Sidcup 0, King's Worcester 44.

GROUP C: Portora Royal (N. Ireland) 0, King Henry VIII 22; Millfield 8, Tiffin 4; Beverley 0, King Henry VIII 24; Tiffin 22, Portora Royal 0; Portora Royal 8, Beverley 6; Millfield 6, King Henry VIII 16; Tiffin 30, Beverley 7; Portora Royal 4, Millfield 10; Beverley 6, Millfield 14; King Henry VIII 14, Tiffin 6.

GROUP D: Merchant Taylor's, Crosby 4, Tasker Millward 0; Hampton 1, Warwick 0; St Joseph's Blackheath 16, Tasker Millward 3; Warwick 4, Merchant Taylors' 16; Merchant Taylors' 10, St Joseph's 30; Hampton 16, Tasker Millward 10; Warwick 12, St Joseph's 8; Merchant Taylors' 20, Hampton 6.

GROUP E: West Park 24, Coleraine (N. Ireland) 10; Verulam 0, Llandovery 42; Brockley 6, Coleraine 24; Llandovery 20, West Park 12; West Park 38, Brockley 0; Verulam 4, Coleraine 30; Llandovery 48, Brockley 6; West Park 42, Verulam 0.

GROUP F: Hereford Cathedral 36, Westcliff 0; Portsmouth 16, Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 14; St Mary's, Liverpool 32, Westcliff 0; Queen Elizabeth 10, Hereford 8; Hereford 0; St Mary's 26; Portsmouth 42, Westcliff 0; Queen Elizabeth 0, St Mary's 14; Hereford 21, Portsmouth 16.

GROUP G: Archbishop Holgate's 11, Manchester GS 0; St Joseph's, Ipswich 14, John Fisher 0; Cheshunt 18, Manchester GS 0; John Fisher 22, Archbishop Holgate's 4; Archbishop Holgate's 0, Cheshunt 20; St Joseph's 44, Manchester GS 0; John Fisher 22, Cheshunt 16; Archbishop Holgate's 0, St Joseph's 33.

GROUP H: Plymouth 18, Sevenoaks 12; Blackpool 14, Aylesbury 18; Bishop Wand 0, Sevenoaks 40; Aylesbury 12, Plymouth 4; Plymouth 46, Bishop Wand 0; Blackpool 6, Sevenoaks 22; Aylesbury 42, Bishop Wand 0, Plymouth 16, Blackpool 6.

GROUP I: Austin Friars 16, Methodist College (N Ireland) 12; Wrekin 6, London Oratory 18; St Edmunds, Ware 0, Methodist 22; London Oratory 10, Austin Friars 6; Austin Friars 12, St Edmund's 18; Wrekin 14, Methodist 10; London Oratory 14, St Edmund's 0; Austin Friars 6, Wrekin 22.

GROUP J: Latymer Upper 7, King's, Macclesfield 4; RGS, Guildford 10, Whitehaven 16; Cwmtawe 14, King's, Macclesfield 4; Whitehaven 10, Latymer Upper 12; Latymer Upper 4, Cwmtawe 16; RGS Guildford 22, King's, Macclesfield 6; Whitehaven 4, Cwmtawe 14; Latymer Upper 0, RGS Guildford 12.

GROUP K: Rydal 4, Queen's, Taunton 10; City of London 6, Bassaleg 6; St Bede's (Manchester) 6, Queen's, Taunton 18; Bassaleg 4, Rydal 7; Rydal 14, St Bede's 4; City of London 4, Queen's, Taunton 14; Bassaleg 26, St Bede's 0; Rydal 15, City of London 16.

GROUP L: Campion, Essex 12, Gunnersbury 0; Wolverstone 7, Regent House (N Ireland) 6; Belmont Abbey 12, Gunnersbury 6; Regent House 6, Campion 16; Campion 6, Belmont Abbey 20; Wolverstone 18, Gunnersbury 0; Regent House 6, Belmont Abbey 16; Campion 4, Wolverstone 8.

GROUP M: Wirral 16, Stonyhurst 4, Nottingham 12, Reigate 6; Doncaster 8, Stonyhurst 4; Reigate 4, Wirral 0; Wirral 16, Doncaster 6; Nottingham 16, Stonyhurst 13; Reigate 15, Doncaster 4; Wirral 18, Nottingham 10.

GROUP N: Ashville 21, Broxbourne 0; Rossall 0, St Benedict's 13; Goffs 26, Broxbourne 6; St Benedict's 24, Ashville 6; Ashville 0, Goff's 20; Rossall 26, Broxbourne 6; St Benedict's 24, Goff's 12; Ashville 0, Rossall 34.

GROUP O: Thomas Picton 22, Magnus 13; Goff's 25, Broxbourne 6; St George's, Harpenden 12; St Marylebone 7, Magnus 18; St George's, Harpenden 0, Thomas Picton 30; Thomas Picton 32, St Marylebone 0; St Edward's Liverpool 20, Magnus 0; St George's, Harpenden 44; St Marylebone 0; Thomas Picton 10, St Edward's, Liverpool 16.

GROUP P: Tulse Hill 28, Hipperholme 0; William Ellis 6, Royal Belfast 23; Birkenhead 4, Hipperholme 4; Royal Belfast 16, Tulse Hill 0; Tulse Hill 0, Birkenhead 30; William Ellis 6, Hipperholme 19.

GROUP Q: Newcastle-under-Lyme 0, Hymer's 0; De La Salle 14, Eltham College 12; King William's (IOM) 6, Hymer's 10; Eltham College 16, Newcastle-under-Lyme 16; King William's 14; De La Salle 16, Hymer's 4.

GROUP R: Normanton 12, King Edward VI, Nuneaton 6; Mount St Mary's 34, Wandsworth 0; Cowley 12, King Edward VI 6; Wandsworth 4, Normanton 14; Normanton 0, Cowley 16; Mount St Mary's 12, King Edward VI, Nuneaton 6.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30, unless stated.

WORLD CUP: Group Two: B[…] v Republic of Ireland (Brussels […] GMT). Group Three, Turkey v […] (Ankara, 12.0 GMT). Group six: […] land v Northern Ireland (at Ha[…] Park, 8.0).

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: E[…] v Spain (at Wembley, 7.45).

THIRD DIVISION: Blackpo[…] Charlton Athletic.

WELSH CUP: Semi-final […] first leg: Hereford United v No[…] County.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEA[…] Boston United v Northwich Vic[…] Kettering v Barrow; Yeovil v […] stone.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland […] sion: Wellingborough v Minehead.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE […] westry v Goole.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgwa[…] Basildon.

BRITISH COLLEGES CUP: […] Borough Road v Chester (at […] Town FC, 3.0).

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Castleford v […] Hull Kingston Rovers; Warringto[…] Wakefield Trinity.

Rugby Union

MOBBS MEMORIAL MATCH: […] Midlands v Barbarians (at North[…] ton, 3.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Abertiller[…] South Wales Police (7.0); Bridg[…] Albion v Clifton; East Midlands v […] barians; Bristol v Pontypool (7[…] Coventry v Bedford (7.15); P[…] nridd v Llanelli (7.0); Swans[…] Bridgend (7.0).

COUNTY MATCHES: Essex v […] bridgeshire (at Southend, 3.0); […] folk v Norfolk (at Ipswich YMC[…] Kent Under-21 v Buckingham[…] Under-21 (at Beckenham, 7.30).

TOURNAMENT: National sc[…] sevens (at Rosslyn Park).

Hockey

SOUTH LEAGUE: Kent Sus[…] Tunbridge Wells v Lloyds Bank.

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT: […] Services (at RAF Brize Norton).

Rose for Coventry

Marcus Rose, the England back, has joined Coventry u[…] the end of the season and […] Saturday will play aga[…] Maesteg. He will link up with […] Cambridge University skipper […] England colleague, Huw Davie[…]



Badminton

East meets west, except when it comes to the men's singles final

By Richard Streeton

Despite the numerous other events that have mushroomed in recent times the All-England Badminton championships, which start at Wembley today, have maintained all their prestige and aura. The five titles which will be decided in Sunday's finals remain the ones that the leading players throughout the world still want to win more than any other.

These are the 71st All-England championships, which began in 1899, and which this year have drawn entries from a record 23 nations and carry £10,500 in prize money. The recent trend for the rivalry between Europe and Asia to provide the backcloth is more emphatic than ever. Kipling would have had no cause to write his celebrated ballad about East and West and the twain never meeting if he had been a present-day badminton enthusiast.

It is hard to see the men's singles champion being other than an Indonesian though which of their brilliant players will win the title is even harder to predict. With Rudi Hartono, the eight times former champion, showing signs of fallibility these days, the top seed, Liem Swie King, who won in 1978-79, may be favourite. Luis Pongoh, the most talented of the younger Indonesian school, who won last week's Swedish Open, might conceivably seize his chance this time.

Prakash Padukone, of India, who by touch and guile destroyed Liem in last year's final, is seeded only sixth this year and can probably be discounted. He has had an unhappy winter settling in his new Copenhagen home and his form

England have Ray Stevens and Kevin Jolly seeded seventh and eighth but it would be unrealistic to expect them to do more than to reach the last eight. The worst of Steven's long-standing heel injury is behind him but he remains short of hard match practice. The draw has provided an exciting first-round meeting today between Hartono and Fleming Delfs, of Denmark, bringing into opposition the present and immediate past world champions. Delfs, who has had a troublesome leg injury, is not seeded. A late withdrawal from the entries has been Sture Johnsson, of Sweden, a former European champion, with an ankle injury.

Lene Köppen, a Copenhagen dentist, seeking her third successive title, once again carries European hopes in the women's singles. If the seedings work out Miss Köppen could face her hardest challenge yet in the final from the little-known South Korean, Sun-Ey-Hwang.

Jane Webster, who is seeded seventh, has the best chance of reaching the later stages among the English women in the absence of Gillian Gilks, who has only entered the women's and mixed doubles. Miss Webster was originally due to start with a tough second-round match against Hiroe Yuki of Japan, four times champion. Miss Yuki, however, is in dispute with her national association, and though she has paid her own fare and is in London, they have refused to allow her to play.

Mrs Gilks and her doubles partner, Paula Kilvington, who remain such sad absentees from England team lists, will be closely watched in the women's doubles for which they have been seeded third. Four times in four meetings this winter they have beaten England's world champions, Nora Perry and Miss Webster, but have fallen themselves to lesser combinations.

Michael Tredgett and Mrs Perry could retain the mixed doubles for England.

Skiing

Zhirov and Miss Hess are dominant

Alexander Zhirov, of the Soviet Union won his second consecutive World Cup giant slalom yesterday but Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, stayed ahead of Phil Mahre in the overall standings.

Zhirov, a 22-year-old from Dedenevo, near Moscow, was fastest in the first run in Borovetz, Bulgaria, and clocked a total time of 2 min 29.39 secs. Stenmark was second and Joel Gaspoz, of Switzerland was third. Mahre, of the United States, was fifth and collected only one point.

Stenmark still leads with 260 points to 254 but he cannot improve his overall score, whereas Mahre has two more races to add to his total, a slalom today and a giant slalom in Laax, Switzerland, on Saturday. Stenmark and Zhirov are sure of first and second places in the giant slalom category.

A precise performance in the first leg gave Zhirov his victory in today's race. "I like the hard snow", he said. "I am happy to have won a second time against Stenmark."

In a women's world cup slalom in Wangs-Pizol, Erica Hess achieved her sixth victory in a row, a record in the speciality she has dominated since the season resumed in January.

Miss Hess, who celebrated her nineteenth birthday only two weeks ago, showed her invincibility yesterday even on snow battered by rain throughout the night and early in the morning.

Second in the first leg behind Daniela Zini, of Italy, Miss Hess came back in the second to leave her rival trailing more than a second. The following group was led by Maria Walliser, of Switzerland, who is 17. Her third place was her best result of the season, confirming that she is an all round skier, capable of shining in the slaloms as in the downhill.

The special slalom replaced one last month at Maribor, cancelled because of a strike by the competitors, allowed Miss Zini to join Perrine Pelen, of France, in third place in the standings in the special slalom.

BOROVETZ: Men's giant slalom: 1, A. Zhirov (Soviet Union), 2 min 29.39 sec; 2, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 2:30.55; 3, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland), 2:30.67; 4, J. Halsnes (Norway), 2:31.05; 5, P. Mahre (US), 2:31.79; 6, S. Mahre (US), 2:32.68. Overall Standings: 1, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 260 pts; 2, P. Mahre, 254; 3, A. Zhirov, 160; 4, S. Mahre, 144; 5, P. Mueller (Switzerland), 140; 6, B. Krizaj (Yugoslavia), 137.

WANGS-PIZOL: Women's slalom: 1, E. Hess (Switzerland), 89.96 secs; 2, D. Zini (Italy), 91.09; 3, M. Walliser (Switzerland), 91.44; 4, H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 91.75; 5, T. McKinney (US), 91.81; 6, P. Pelen (France), 92.04.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	70	330	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	5
Slush on lower slopes							
Anzere	50	190	Fair	Heavy	Poor	Fine	2
Slush on lower slopes							
Crans-Montana	35	110	Poor	Varied	Poor	Cloud	10
Bare patches on lower slopes							
Flaine	110	515	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Thaw	11
Slush on lower slopes							
Grindelwald	30	160	Fair	Heavy	Worn	Fine	5
Slush on lower slopes							
Kitzbühel	30	175	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Fine	7
Slush on all slopes							
La Plagne	105	285	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Thaw	7
Slush on lower slopes							
Les Arcs	100	210	Fair	Varied	Fair	Cloud	6
Worn patches on lower slopes							
St Anton	35	440	Good	Varied	Poor	Fine	11
Strong west winds							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

GERMANY	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Weather	°C
Garmisch	25	—	Wet	Cloud	7
Hindelang	50	—	Old	—	6
Kleinwalsertal	80	—	Wet	—	8
Mittenwald	20	—	Old	—	8
Oberammergau	10	—	Wet	—	10
Oberjoch	50	—	Old	—	5
Oberstaufen	25	—	Old	—	9
Oberstdorf	30	—	Wet	Cloud	8

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: Main runs: most complete. Wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Limited nursery areas. Wet snow. Vertical runs: 1,000ft. Access roads clear. Snow level: 2,000ft. Glenshee: Main runs: A few complete but narrow. Wet snow. Lower slopes: Ample nursery areas. Wet snow. Vertical runs: 1,000ft. Access roads clear. Snow level: 2,000ft. Glencoe. Main runs: All complete. Wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Ample nursery areas. Wet snow. Vertical runs: 1,300ft. Access roads clear. Lecht: Main runs: All complete. Wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Ample nursery areas. Wet snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 600ft. Access roads clear. Snow level: 2,000ft.

Rugby League

Leagues in dispute over youth scheme

By Keith Macklin

Relations between the Rugby League and the British Amateur Rugby League Association have reached a disastrously low level after the rejection by a sub-committee of the RL of a five-point plan covering youth teams and amateur players. For some time there has been dispute over the practice of some clubs establishing under-17 and youth teams which, in the words of BARLA officials, "cream off the best amateur players".

After several rows, the RL took the drastic step of withdrawing financial aid to clubs in membership of BARLA. When this impasse was reached, it was decided that, in the interests of the game, a plan should be formulated by David Oxley, secretary general of the RL, after consultations with BARLA representatives and senior club officials.

Tom Keaveney, the BARLA secretary, has issued a strong statement, declaring that talks between the two bodies have now broken down after the rejection of the plan. Mr Keaveney alleges that the rejection by the sub-committee springs out of the "self interest of those clubs who take the best players from the amateur leagues". He adds that it is the ambition of some senior clubs to "take over entire youth teams".

An attempt to solve the situation was made with a "colts agreement" in 1976, but Mr Keaveney accuses senior clubs' officials of failing to honour their own agreement. Paying tribute to the thousands of voluntary workers who have developed amateur rugby league and who see their efforts threatened anew during the 1980s by the poaching of senior teams, Mr Keaveney ends his statement on a powerful note. "They are hell-bent on cornering the cream of amateur rugby for their own ends."

Carlisle United have, as expected, applied to join the second division of the League next season. They have appointed as managing director of a separate Rugby League board, George Graham, formerly chairman of a well-established Cumbrian club, Workington Town.

Mr Graham will adopt the role and policy of Harold Genders, the Fulham director with northern roots who, in the three months before Fulham joined the second division, toured Rugby League centres negotiating transfers and free transfers among experienced players reaching the end of their careers as well as young players unable to gain regular first team places.

Carlisle expect, like their mentors, Fulham, to break even on gates of around 4,000 at Brunton Park.

The Wigan board of directors have issued a statement deploring the recent violence during the game against Huddersfield in which six players, three from each side, were sent off. In a joint statement by the directors, punitive action against all the players who took part in the match is promised, though the precise nature of the punishment is not stated.

Joyce Smith, a 43-year-old housewife who runs marathons in two and a half hours

A woman who is ahead of her time

At an age when most women are regarding middle age with resigned distaste, Joyce Smith is preparing to run 26 miles and 385 yards through the centre of London. At 43, she is the third fastest woman marathon runner, holds the United Kingdom and Commonwealth records and has won five marathons in seven attempts.

She will be expected to be the first woman home in the London marathon, sponsored by Gillette, on Sunday, although she will be pleased to come in somewhere in the two hundreds. There will be even more men behind her than ahead of her as more than 7,500 athletes have entered the event, including about 330 women.

Usually the Watford housewife, who combines training with work and bringing up two girls, Lisa, aged 12, and Lia, four, runs 50 to 70 miles a week but when she is building up to a big event, like the London, she runs between 80 and 90. "I am not fully fit", she warns. "I don't want to be fully fit for marathon running at this time of year. I have more important ones later. I just want to be part of the first one."

She has put herself down as a 2 hours 35 minutes competitor, although her best, in winning the Tokyo marathon last year, is 2 hours 30 minutes 27 seconds, a time bettered only by Grete Waitz, of Norway, and Patricia Catalano, of the United States. Mrs Smith finds women-only marathons harder because there are more tactics and because "you become involved right from the word go. In a mixed marathon, once you get going, you might not see another woman competitor."

She was 40 when she took up marathon running, a stress fracture in 1978 having persuaded her and her husband and coach, Bryan, to give up her track career. "I could have retired then but there was always the marathon. It was always something I wanted to do", she says. "This is the thing of marathon running, the achieving of it. Because it is such a long event, it is something just to have done one."

When Mrs Smith began her athletics career, in 1954, women were confined



Joyce Smith: "not fully fit".

internationally to 800 metres, on the track, an event which was too short for her. Now, in the twilight of that career when she is enjoying more success than ever before, the tantalizing image of the Olympic flame beckons.

A women's marathon will be introduced, like the 3,000 metres and 400 metres hurdles, at Los Angeles in 1984. Yet by then Mrs Smith will be 46. "I am taking each race and each year as it comes", she says. "There is a major championship each year up to the Olympics. I am not even thinking of the Olympics.

"There must come a time when it will be harder for me, although I feel I can still improve at this point. I'll know when I come out of a race and feel completely satisfied with my time. When that happens I may say 'that's it'. Three years is a long time to keep pushing out mileage and doing times, and I wouldn't want to go to the Olympics as the third British runner." The international challenge is becoming more formidable each year. In 1979, 25 women ran inside 2hr 45min. Last year, 58 achieved the target. Mrs Smith, herself, wants to go inside 2hr 30min.

It seems that she will go down in the history of the sport as the runner who always just missed out. "When I was in my early twenties, when I suppose I was at my peak, I wasn't an 800 metres runner and I knew it, although I did get one international vest at 800 metres. Perhaps that's why I've stayed in for so long. I think in the marathon, age doesn't matter so much."

She can look forward to a women's marathon in the new European Cup competition, to be held in France this September, and to the inclusion of the event in the next European championships, in Athens next year. It has also been included in the first IAAF world championships in Helsinki in 1983. Mrs Smith believes women have proved beyond doubt that women are capable of running marathons.

Considering that she joined Hampstead Harriers, which eventually became Barnet Ladies, in 1954 and has been running ever since, her honours list might seem a little bare. But then Mrs Smith was a woman before her time. In 1959 and 1960, she was the national cross-country champion. In 1972 she won the world cross-country title

In her first Olympics, in Munich in 1972, she was beaten in the semi-final of the 1,500 metres, breaking two personal best times and two British records on the way. She regards that as a better achievement than the bronze medal she won in the first 3,000 metres at the European championships in Rome in 1974. She believes that she never realized her full potential in the 3,000 metres because of injury and after having her second child.

But the marathon beckoned and, with it, a fuller flowering of her talent. She won her first, the Avon marathon at Sandbach in 1979. That same year she won at Waldniel, in West Germany, and in Tokyo. Last year, she took the Sandbach race again and also Tokyo.

Paul Harrison

Rowing

Pumping money into national lightweights

By Jim Railton

Mobil Oil Company yesterday financed an experiment to prove oil and water mix. It would be gratifying to know that three-quarters of a gallon of household water topped up by petrol would solve our energy problems but Mobil's experiment was in a sporting context. They gave a cheque for £7,500 yesterday to the British lightweight international rowing squad who, with a top up by the Sports Council, will receive £22,500 this year.

As part of that spending power the lightweights were able to launch a new boat in the presence of the Oxford coxswain Susan Brown and John Snagge.

The British lightweights deserve this sponsorship by their record of four gold, two silver and two bronze medals since the inaugural world lightweight championship in Nottingham in 1975. They have been helped in the past but generally have argued the point as hungry fighters. Now they must justify this generous sponsorship again with results.

They hold the world record in eights and are the target for other nations who take part in the world lightweight championships. Mobil have provided an incentive for the Britons by placing an option on future sponsorship, to be taken up next October.

Yesterday the respective Blue boats had energy problems of their own. The Cambridge coach, Graeme Hall, substituted for the Cambridge sixman, Graham Phillips, who has a cold. Oxford jammed two seats in the morning after their boat had been overhauled. Rankov is back in the Oxford boat but rowing delicately; and they have a wounded warrior in the bows with Conington who, according to their coach, "cut his hand eating". Well, a clove of garlic they say will heal all ills. Crews as normal.

TODAY'S OUTINGS: Oxford, 10.0 and 3.0; Cambridge, 10.15 and 3.45 (both from Putney).

Golf

LLANDUDNO: Schools championship, qualifying round: 1, Ardudwy, Harlech, 230; 2, Syr Thomas Jones, Amlwch, 233; 3, John Bright, Llandudno 233. Individual: M. Wearne (Ardudwy), 66.

Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Boston Bruins 7, Edmonton Oilers 2; Vancouver Canucks 3, Quebec Nordiques 3.

ORTISEI: World Championship: Group B: Poland 11, Japan 3; Italy 4, Switzerland 3; East Germany 6, Romania 1; Japan 7, Yugoslavia 3; Poland 13, Norway 4.

GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
E Germany	3	3	0	0	21	7	6
Italy	3	3	0	0	13	8	6
Poland	3	2	1	0	22	12	5
Switzerland	3	1	1	1	10	[illegible]	3
Japan	3	1	0	2	10	9	2
Norway	3	1	0	2	8	18	2
Romania	3	0	0	3	8	15	0
Yugoslavia	3	0	0	3	10	[illegible]	0

Tournament goes on

The British Women's Open golf championship will go ahead as planned at the Northumberland club from July 29 to August 1, although the first day clashes with the wedding of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer.

Equestrianism

Four Badminton winner in Brigstock entry

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

The old-established Downlands horse trials at Liphook, scheduled to take place today and tomorrow, have fallen victim to the Ministry of Agriculture's restriction on the movement of animals in Hampshire after the outbreak of foot and mouth disease on the Isle of Wight. Mrs Olive Jackson's ne wfixture at Frensham, which was to have been held on April 1 and 2, is also off.

Diana Maxwell's fixture, at Brigstock, in Northamptonshire, on Saturday and Sunday, is sufficiently far north not to be affected. Some 440 horses are entered, among them Might Tango, owned by Bruce Davidson, of the United States, who is taking part in his final event before Badminton.

Four previous Badminton winners are in the field, among them Captain Mark Phillips with Persian Holiday, who has been hunted by his mother with the Duke of Beaufort's hounds, and the Shelswell winner, Lincoln. Richard Meade rides Kilcashel, who was so impressive at Shelswell and Lucinda Prior-Palmer rides the 1979 winner, Killaire.

A galloping course on natural parkland with the best all-weather surface, old turf, Brigstock has also been selected as a dress rehearsal for the world top three-day even by Rachel Bayliss, Lester Piggott's daughter, Maureen, Sue Benson, with Monacle, Bea Perkins, of the United States, with County Frost and Goran Breisner, from Sweden, with Ultimus.

Mrs Fred Broome hopes that the family's Wales and West jumping show at their family home near Chepstow from April 3 to 5 will go ahead. "We are just far enough north to be safe at the moment, but we need some dry, frosty nights to kill the germs instead of this wet and windy weather."

Badminton, too, is safe at present, but Captain Phillips advised Davidson on Sunday to take out insurance on his prospects of riding there.

Hockey

Sponsor wanted for England tour of Australia

By Sydney Friskin

The Hockey Association are seeking a sponsor for England's tour of Australia in August this year as part of their preparation for the World Cup tournament at the end of December. The Sports Council have refused to allot a grant for this venture.

Australian authorities are aware of the situation and are hoping that the tour will still go through. Meanwhile it is certain that England will visit Spain to play two matches in Barcelona between December 10 and 13 about a fortnight before the World Cup tournament is due to begin.

It was confirmed yesterday by the HA at a press conference in London that a quadrangular tournament would be held in the London area on October 17 and 18. Invitations to play against England have been accepted by West Germany and Scotland but confirmation is still awaited from India who had earlier expressed a wish to play at the end of September.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) have announced the groups for the World Cup tournament which are: A: Pakistan, West Germany, Spain, Argentina, Poland and the team that finished third in the intercontinental cup. B: Netherlands, Australia, India, England and the first two teams from the intercontinental cup. Against the Netherlands, Australia and India, England will have no easy task qualifying for the semi-final round.

HA's competition committee called for a report from the Combined Services Hockey Association on the circumstances under which three substitutes, against the authorized two, were allowed in the match between the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy in the Services championship on March 11. The RAF won the match on penalty strokes after extra time and received the title but if the competitions committee are not satisfied with the explanation there might be a replay. The winners of the Services championship automatically qualify for the county championship next season.

Northern Ireland players left out by Britain

By Joyce Whitehead

Twenty-six players have been chosen for the Great Britain trials to be held at Lilleshall on April 4 and 5. A team will then be selected for a quadrangular tournament in Dublin on April 24-26.

For the first time no players from Northern Ireland have been included. The Irish Ladies Hockey Union are applying to the International Olympic Committee for membership and have ruled that a player appearing for Great Britain cannot play for Ireland for six years.

PARTY: W. Banks (Wales), J. Burrows (England), L. Carr (England), S. Connell (Scotland), C. Craigie (Scotland), J. Dobie (Scotland), M. Ericsall (England), J. Foston (Wales), P. Gibbon (England), K. Gomich (England), J. Grassick (Scotland), L. Greig (Scotland), B. Holden (England), J. Jurischka (England), K. Losh (England), S. MacVicar (Scotland), S. MacDonald (Scotland), W. MacCullum (Scotland), S. Morgan (Wales), S. Morrow (Wales), M. Purin (Wales), [illegible] Robinson (England), [illegible] (England), [illegible] Stewart (Scotland), I. Swinnerton (England), J. Williams (Wales).

Racing

Mellor fined £2,850 for three doping offences

Stan Mellor, the Lambourn trainer, was fined a total of £2,850 at a Jockey Club disciplinary committee inquiry in London yesterday after three of his horses had failed dope tests. Mellor, legally represented, was fined £1,250 on each count, and his head lad, Eric Wheeler, was fined £200 on each count.

Cold Spell and Royal Pine were both found to have traces of Nandrolin, an anabolic steroid, and were automatically disqualified from their respective races. Cold Spell finished unplaced, but Royal Pine loses a winner's prize at Sandown Park.

The disciplinary committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Fairhaven, accepted admissions from both Mellor and Wheeler that they were in breach of the rules. This was Mellor's first appearance at Portman Square for such an offence.

Speaking after the hearing, Mellor, aged 43, and a licence holder at Lambourn since 1972, said: "I'm slightly relieved, I suppose it could have been worse. I've just got to live it down and pay the fines.

"The administration of the Nandrolin was a pure accident. Let me stress that we only use Nandrolin to help yearlings and two-year-olds recover from castration operations—in short, on horses out of training. There is no way I am building up my two-year-olds on steroids."

The disqualification of Royal Stuart, a Windsor winner in February, was more disturbing. He was found to have traces of caffeine and theobromine in his urine, but it was impossible to establish the sources of these prohibitive substances. Mellor was fined £350.

Mellor continued: "This is very worrying. We know that the other two were accidents, but this is a complete mystery. You never know if it will happen again."

Andy Scott, a Northumberland trainer, was fined £700 at another disciplinary committee inquiry. This followed positive tests on Another Captain and Newgate, both Newcastle winners in November. Both horses were automatically disqualified and Scott fined £350 on each account.

To-Agori-Mou is the name on everyone's lips

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

In recent years we have heard a lot about such great training establishments as Warren Place, West Ilsley and Seven Barrows, and with every justification because they are run with such skill by such proven experts as Henry Cecil, Dick Hern and Peter Walwyn, all champion trainers in their time. Now for a change of scene.

Set deep in the heart of the Sussex countryside the Coombelands racing stables are now also very much on the racing map. Surrounded by a thousand acres of gallops and farmland they are owned by Guy Harwood, aged 41, who has built them to their present strength of 93 boxes since he first took out a licence to train in 1968.

Most of the turf for the four grass gallops which all have their own watering systems, came from the now defunct racecourse at Hurst Park. In addition there are also three all-weather strips on which we saw the pick of the string exercising yesterday morning, because the turf was still much too wet after yet another downpour lasting almost 24 hours.

Harwood was helped a great deal in the early stages of his career by the former jockey Jimmy Lindley, who is now a television commentator. On Lindley's retirement from race-riding seven years ago Harwood immediately signed Greville Starkey as his first jockey and in the intervening period their friendship and mutual respect has blossomed. Yesterday that close tie was there for all to see as they prepared themselves and the 90-odd horses there for the coming season—a season which could in Starkey's own words "begin on a high note at Doncaster on Saturday with a victory in the Lincoln Handicap, given a good draw and normal luck in running".

Herons Hollow is their Lincoln candidate. He won at the corresponding meeting last year. He runs best when fresh, he takes no getting fit, he comes to hand early and he loves soft ground. Those were just some of the encouraging remarks that Starkey and Harwood had to say about Herons Hollow yesterday. Starkey is also adamant that the colt is more forward than some other horses he has been riding in Newmarket recently, so granted that decent draw he seems certain to give his backers a good run.

But the horse which Starkey was on yesterday and the horse on which most of our eyes were inevitably focused, was To-Agori-Mou. He is unquestionably the stable star after the great race that he ran against Storm Bird in last year's Dewhurst Stakes. After that he was allotted 9st 6lb in our Free Handicap, the second highest weight. He looks every inch a top-class colt when posing for photographs and, more important, when in action.

During the winter he put on 100lb in weight which shows how well he did himself. At one stage Harwood even began to wonder whether he would be able to knock him into shape in time for the 2,000 Guineas, but he need not have worried. The overweight soon turned to muscle when To-Agori-Mou started his ground work and yesterday he stripped looking absolutely marvellous.

"I have never known a horse winter as well as he has", were Starkey's words to me. Knowing some of the horses he has been acquainted with over the years that is praise indeed. It is also ample justification for his enthusiastic Greek owners Max and Andry Muinos, to turn down a six-figure offer for a 50 per cent stake in their colt during the winter.

To-Agori-Mou is Greek for My Boy and they have every reason to idolize him, especially as they feel that they let Ela-mana-mou go too cheaply at the end of his three-year-old career. "Much the best horse that I have ever had" is how Harwood described To-Agori-Mou. When you think that he had charge of Ela-Mana-Mou when he was a two-and three-year old that is also saying something.

Harwood is determined to take Storm Bird on again with To-Agori-Mou in the 2,000 Guineas. Visitors to Newmarket on April 14 are likely to catch their first glimpse of him in public this season when he runs in the Craven Stakes.

Strength in depth is a feature of the stable and in Recitation and Kalaglow they have both a second and a third string who would be the envy of many. The Greenham Stakes is likely to be Recitation's first race of the season. If he passes that test with flying colours he is likely to be sent to Longchamp where he won the Grand Critérium last autumn.

Nottingham results

1.45 (1.47) CHARNWOOD NOVICES' HURDLE (Div I: £483: 2m)
FURTHER THOUGHT, b g by Ginger Boy—Smudge (Mrs V. Bergh) 6-11-4 .... H. Davies (8-1) 1
Whoconnedwho P. Scudamore (8-1) 2
Don Presto B. R. Davies (3-1 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 85p; places, 34p, 27p, 10p. Dual F: £7.14. CSF: £27.27. T. Forster, at Wantage. 15l, 3l. Milly Kelly (14-1) 4th. 16 ran. NR: Liquidate, Vividus.

2.15 (2.16) TRENT HANDICAP CHASE (£1,417: 3½m)
HIGHWAY PAT, b g by Royal Highway—Beggars Birthday (J. Tainton), 8-11-2 P. Scudamore (11-4) 1
Peter Scot .. P. Barton (9-4 fav) 2
[illegible]-Hand P. Tuck (11-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 25p; places, 15p, 10p, 14p. Dual F: 37p. CSF: 84p. D. Nicholson at Stow-on-the-Wold. 1l, 8l. General Bruno (33-1) 4th. 10 ran. NR: Ballydonagh, Snow Buck.

2.45 (2.49) CHARNWOOD NOVICES' HURDLE (Div II: £483: 2m)
GRAND OEUVRE, b g, by Sir Gaylord—Consolation (Mrs P. Shaw), 4-10-7 R. F. Davies (33-1) 1
Just A River J. Francome (2-1 fav) 2
[illegible] .... P. Scudamore (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £3.88; places, 73p, 10p, 31p. Dual F: £9.17. CSF: £9.17. W. Jenks, at Bridgenorth. 3l, ½l. Gandouge Boy (8-1) 4th. 22 ran. NR: Bondor, Profiteer, Despatch.

3.15 (3.17) WELLAND NOVICES' CHASE (£960: 2m)
COLE PORTER, ch g, by Great Nephew—Ella (Exors of late Mrs H. Banks), 6-11-0 G. McCourt (5-1) 1
Midnight Song J. Francome (3-1) 2
Spinning Reel B. R. Davies (15-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 45p; places, 17p, 15p, 28p. Dual F: 46p. CSF: £2.09. M. Banks, at Sandy. 2l, 3l. Hill of Slane 15-8 fav. Rubber Legs (16-1) 4th. 11 ran.

3.45 (3.47) SOAR HURDLE (Handicap: £1,312: 3½m)
TAN TROED, b g, by Crozier—[illegible] (Miss J. Wallace), 8-10-4 Miss J. Wallace (10-1) 1
Ingham ...... D. Nesbitt (25-1) 2
Wedded Bliss Mr W. Walford (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 81p; places, 23p, 52p, 56p, 47p. Dual F: £6.41. CSF: £23.66. Mrs K. V. Wallace, of Lambourn. ½l, 1l. Coffee Boy 9-4 fav. Lady Mantegna, 27 ran.

4.15 (4.16) DERWENT FOXHUNTERS' CHASE (£907: 2½m)
CHEEKIO ORA, ch g, by Romany Air—Corvigila (H. Parry), 8-12-4 Mr P. Greenall (10-11 fav) 1
Shore Captain Miss P. Lamb (9-4) 2
Codwar Mr J. de Lisle-Wells (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 15p; places, 10p, 10p, 27p. Dual F: 23p. CSF: 31p. H. Parry, at Langham. 12l, 4l. Right Tactics (10-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Galway Knight, Fast Reaction.

4.45 (4.46) GRUNWICK STAKES (Flat race: [illegible])
JOE SUNLIGHT, b g, by Simbir—Raheema (R. West), 4-11-3 D. Wilkinson (evens fav) 1
Concannan .... D. Dutton (33-1) 2
Bentley Springs Mr C. Platts (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 17p; places, 10p, £1.2p, £2.64. Dual F: £5.10. CSF: £7.24. C. W. Thornton, at Middleham. 1l, 6l. Coul Kanda (16-1) 4th. [illegible] ran.
PLACEPOT: £9.95.

Fontwell Park

3.00 (3.7) NYTON HURDLE (Selling handicap: £672: 2¼m)
BROUGHTY PIER b g by Simbir—Julies Gi-Gi (E. Birchall) 5-9-12 W. Morris (8-1) 1
Cutler .... M. Perrett (10-1) 2
Henlow Gamble Miss S. Oliver (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 89p; places, 19p, 29p, 65p. Dual F: £6.10. CSF: £8.65. E. Birchall at Kidderminster. 20l, 3l. Double Header 9-2 fav. Celia's Halo (6-1) 4th. 13 ran. Winner bought in for 1,550 guineas.

2.30 (2.35) FLANSHAM CHASE (Novices: £1,156: 2m 2½f)
TARZAN, b g, by Tumble Wind-Nayanga (W. Chapman) 6-10-12 R. Champion (8-1) 1
Glenhawk .. C. Gwilliam (5-4 fav) 2
Canford Ginger .. C. Brown (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 70p; places, 21p, 13p, 15p. Dual F: 74p. CSF: £1.77. J. Gifford at Findon. 3l, 4l. Singing Fool (50-1) 4th. 10 ran.

3.0 (3.05) MADEHURST HURDLE (Handicap: £1,628: 2¼m)
LINTON, b g by [illegible]—Flights Fancy (Mrs H. Threlfall) 7-9-10 J. Redmond (12-1) 1
Cold Justice .... R. Atkins (7-2) 2
Upton Bishop S. Shilston (2-1 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 92p; places, 20p, 11p, 17p. Dual F: £1.54. CSF: £5.22. D. Underwood at Bramley. 5l, hd. 3l. Shakiamoner (11-2) 4th. 10 ran. NR: The Club.

3.30 (3.32) CERTAIN JUSTICE CHASE (Handicap: £2,498: 2m 3½f)
STONEPARK, b g, by Pals Passage or Three Dons—Diamonds [illegible] (Mrs S. Embiricos), 9-11-4 R. Rowe (7-2 fav) 1
Grey Fusilier .. S. Shilston (9-2) 2
Birshell .. Mrs D. Grissell (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 44p; places, 17p, 15p, 21p. Dual F: 70p. CSF: £1.82. J. Gifford, at Findon. Nk, 8l. Springbow (5-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Gleaming Flight.

4.0 (1.2) MUNDHAM HURDLE (Novices: £552: 2½m)
DOUCEMENT, b m, by Cheval—Softly Softly (Mrs B. Cobden), 5-10-11 R. Muggeridge (3-1 fav) 1
Crowe Major .. R. Champion (7-2) 2
Maynote .. Mr S. Andrews (13-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 31p; places, 15p, 19p, 10p. Dual F: 48p. CSF: £1.56. J. Cobden, at Marlock. [illegible] 12l. Sire Temple (33-1) 4th. 13 ran. NR: Bold Dealer.

4.30 (4.32) CHARLTON CHASE (Hunters: £1,356: 3m 2½f)
HESITATION, ch g, by Alcide—Dilemma (J. Dufosee), 11-11-3 R. Alner (100-30 jt fav) 1
Lorgan Prince J. Frost (10-1) 2
Lucky Toss S. Andrews (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 46p; places, 14p, 26p, 34p. Dual F: £1.71. CSF: £5.33. J. W. Dufosee at Stalbridge. 3l, 15l. Mauritius (100-30) jt fav. Helpex (16-1) 4th. 10 ran. NR: Set Point.
PLACEPOT: £65.70.

Kelso programme

2.15 HEITON HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £580: 2m)

4 00 Barbary Lace, H. McConnell, 6-11-4 Mr Robertson 7
5 0 Barleon, J. Henderson, 5-11-4 ...... Doughty
7 2-000 Colleague, G. Lockerbie, 6-11-4 .... Balmer
8 00-40 Cool Sol, T. Barnes, 9-11-4 ...... Barnes
13 0004 Hope of Oak, J. Charlton, 5-11-4 .. Bradley 7
15 /000- Jackalla, J. Jordon, 7-11-4 ...... Allen
17 0000 Kintore, J. Charlton, 9-11-4 ...... C. Grant
18 Latest Craze, G. Fairbairn, 6-11-4 .. R. Barry
20 f-004 *My Star Hussar, Miss B. Oliver, 6-11-4 —
21 000f Owen Gail, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-4 .. Lamb
22 Oyston Idol, J. Charlton, 5-11-4 ..... Pimlott
23 0 Paul Scarlet, Mrs A. Scott, 5-11-4 Mr Shiels 7
28 0 Ronnie Bar, G. Fairbairn, 9-11-4 McCormack 4
29 Romany Camp, H. Burns, 6-11-4 ..... Nolan
30 000- Rosehill View, T. Cuthbert, 6-11-4 P. Charlton
33 Wild Rudolph, D. Moorhead, 6-11-4 Mr Walton
34 4430 College Don, V. Thompson, 4-10-6 Mr Thompson 7
36 High Kype (B), J. S. Wilson, 4-10-6 A. Brown

15-8 Hope Of Oak, 11-4 Oyston Idol, 4-1 College Don, 6-1 Colleague, 8-1 Kintore, 10-1 Latest Craze, 20-1 others.

2.45 STEWART WIGHT CHASE (Handicap: £1,301: 3m)

2 02p1 Kelso Chant, B. Wilkinson, 9-11-5 S. Charlton
4 01b1 Another Captain (CD), A. Scott, 9-10-11 Hawkins
6 3012 Sebastian V (CD), C. Bell, 13-10-5 .. Lamb
7 03/0 Brown Barman (CD), W. A. Stephenson, 9-10-12 ...... Mr McIntyre 4
8 3f21 Solo Sam (CD), R. Brewis, 9-10-0 ..... Pimlott
9 02fp Carndonagh (CD, B), G. Dun, 11-10-0 —
10 2131 Peaty Sandy (C), Miss H. Hamilton, 7-10-0 Mr T. Dun
13 up22 Indian Emperor (C), F. Walton, 11-10-0 Mr Walton
16 u040 *Scrunch (CD), R. Brewis, 8-10-0 ..... —
18 f00p Silver Mount (B), G. Lockerbie, 10-10-0 D. Atkins

9-4 Another Captain, 11-4 Peaty Sandy, 4-1 Sebastian V, 6-1 Kelso Chant, 8-1 Solo Sam, 20-1 others.

3.15 CROALL BRYSON CHASE (Hunters: Amateurs: £926: 3m)

1 -2221 Tilston (CD), Mrs P. Shields, 9-12-7 Peckitt 7
2 p4-u1 Astral Charmer, C. Bell, 8-11-12 Miss Bell 7
5 -p334 Master Marmaduke (B), C. Bell, 8-11-12 Shiels 7
6 4-041 New Formula (D), Mrs F. Gray, 11-11-12 Miss Gray 7
10 0000- Brownbee III, W. Reed, 8-11-7 ...... Reed 7
11 p-00f Come On Steve, J. Williamson, 10-11-7 Hudson 7
12 2-333 Dryburn, W. Walton, 10-11-7 Mrs Hamilton 7
13 0 Granger, C. Robson, 8-11-7 .. Miss Robson 7
14 200-4 Jingling Johnny, K. Oliver, 9-11-7 ... T. Dun
15 p/ Merelie Brig, A. Hogarth, 10-11-7 J. Dun 7
16 30f/ Mr Eskimo, J. Wade, 10-11-7 .... McIntyre 4
17 Mr Freeze, W. Morleith, 11-11-7 ...... —
20 -000- Pentrich Princess, R. Nixon, 6-11-7 .. Storey
21 -03f2 Prince Keel, J. Wade, 10-11-7 ...... Wade 7
23 400/ Russian Society, I. Gibson, 8-11-7 .... —
34 22-0f Threlkeld Hall, Mrs C. Weightman, 7-11-7 Todhunter 7

11-4 Tilston, 7-2 New Formula, 9-2 Astral Charmer, 6-1 Dryburn, 8-1 Jingling Johnny, 10-1 Prince Keel, 12-1 Threlkeld Hall, 20-1 others.

3.45 BERRYMOSS HURDLE (Handicap: £989: 3m 1f 120yd)

1 0-004 Islander, Lord Kilmany, 9-12-7 ...... Holmes
2 0b00 Handycuff, A. Scott, 9-12-6 .... —
4 f221- River Sirene, T. Barron, 9-11-8 .... Balmer
5 4034 Fabulous (B), J. S. Wilson, 8-11-6 McKellar 7
6 32-00 Saffron Cake (CD, B), J. S. Wilson, 12-11-6 A. Brown
8 0104 Northern Echo, M. Naughton, 5-11-0 Bradley 7
10 0323 His Reverence, Denys Smith, 5-10-12 C. Corant
12 0010 Tall Order, L. Foster, 7-10-10 .... —
13 0-0pp Tel Brig (C), G. Renilson, 9-10-9 D. Atkins
14 0200 Lough Street, G. Lockerbie, 8-10-8 Hawkins
15 0043 Run'n Fly, A. Mactaggart, 6-10-8 ...... —
16 1Op0 Never Stop, C. Bell, 4-10-7 .... Pimlott
17 f-u20 Canty's Brig, D. Thomson, 8-10-6 .... —
18 0401 Nodana (C), T. Craig, 5-10-5 .... Lamb
19 0200 Saucy Eater, T. Barnes, 8-10-3 .... Barnes
23 pf00 Pops Girl, K. Oliver, 8-10-1 .... O'Connell 4
25 0000 Who's Free (CD, B), T. Cuthbert, 6-10-0 P. Charlton
26 4f0f Minimist, D. MacDonald, 8-10-0 J. Goulding 4
28 0400- Simprim Lady, T. Cuthbert, 10-10-0 ... —
31 00-00 Uncle Vanya, J. Jordon, 11-10-0 A. McGilligan 7

4-1 Islander, 9-2 His Reverence, 5-1 Northern Echo, 13-2 Nodana, 7-1 Saffron Cake, 8-1 Run'n Fly, 10-1 Never Stop, 12-1 River Sirene, Tall Order, 20-1 others.

4.15 GREENLAW CHASE (Novices: £697: 2m 196yd)

1 0012 Troarnie, T. Barnes, 6-11-10 .... Barnes
2 u000 Automaton, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-0 .. Lamb
3 f400 Ballyo, E. Owen jun, 6-11-0 ...... Earnshaw
4 0/p0 Bushello, I. Jordon, 6-11-0 .... Allen
5 0004 Dunquetzal, H. Walby, 8-11-0 .... Mr Walford
8 00-40 Harpercroft, R. Goldie, 7-11-0 ..... C. Corant
12 0p44 King Tud, N. Chamberlain, 7-11-0 S. Charlton
13 0-0 Larry Bell, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-0 Mr McIntyre 4
14 1002 Lord Provost, Miss H. Hamilton, 7-11-0 Mr T. Dun
15 0003 Merry Missus, D. Moorhead, 7-11-0 McCaskill 4
19 2032 Mystic Match, J. Brockbank, 7-11-0 Doughty
20 b Pater Noster, W. Sample, 8-11-0 .. R. Barry
25 2434 Spartan Red, H. McConnell, 11-11-0 Mrs Robertson 7
27 004/ Tudor Gulf, T. Vickers, 6-11-0 .. Scudamore

7-4 Lord Provost, 9-4 Troarnie, 5-1 King Tud, 6-1 Dunquetzal, 8-1 Mystic Match, 12-1 Merry Missus, 20-1 others.

4.45 HEITON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £557: 2m)

1 3300 Castleholm (D), R. Allan, 6-12-0 Mr Shiels 7
3 0434 Ambassador Boy, Mrs A. Cousins, 5-11-4 P. Barry
6 0/p- Bello Boy, Mrs C. Weightman, 7-11-4 Mr Hudson 7
7 04 Camborne Hill, C. Bell, 5-11-4 .... Pimlott
12 0- Glencaird, A. Bell, 5-11-4 .... Brooke 7
13 000 Dunaram, T. Barnes, 6-11-4 .... Barnes
14 00 Fernez, H. McConnell, 6-11-4 Mrs Robertson 7
15 00/0- Gulf Spring, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-4 G. Davies 7
18 pr- Just Timothy, I. Jordon, 5-11-4 ...... Allen
20 0-000 Manesty, D. MacDonald, 6-11-4 J. Goulding 4
21 00 Marine Cadet, J. Charlton, 5-11-4 .. Pimlott
22 0- Mellow Fellow, R. Gray, 6-11-4 .. S. Charlton
23 pp Old Shot, R. Haigh, 7-11-4 .... Keil 7
25 0204 Paddy-One-Row, I. Vickers, 6-11-4 Scudamore
26 -0bp Pitora, G. Lockerbie, 5-11-4 .... Balmer
27 f-000 Royal Minstrel, D. Moorhead, 6-11-4 McCaskill 4
28 0000 Silent Reactor, G. Fairbairn, 5-11-4 McCormack 7
29 r Tanlaw, C. Lamb, 5-11-4 .... Lamb
31 p Bronze Tango, Mrs L. Brown, 4-10-6 C. Corant
33 000 One Day, E. Owen jun, 4-10-6 ..... Earnshaw
36 00 Rosie's Secret, G. Lockerbie, 4-10-6 P. Charlton
37 00 Shunters Corner, T. Craig, 4-10-6 A. Brown

11-4 Camborne Hill, 7-2 Castleholm, 9-2 Paddy-One-Row, 6-1 Pitora, 7-1 Ambassador Boy, 8-1 Dunaram, 10-1 Rosie's Secret, 12-1 Manesty, 30-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Kelso selections

By Michael Seely

2.15 Hope of Oak. 2.45 Another Captain. 3.15 Tilston. 3.45 His Reverence. 4.15 LORD PROVOST is specially recommended. 4.45 Manesty.

Gifford could isolate his National hope

Josh Gifford, the trainer who had a 39-1 double with Tarzan and Stonepark at Fontwell Park yesterday, is keeping a close watch on the foot and mouth disease developments. His Findon stable is in the danger area for restriction of livestock movement, if the outbreak spreads from the Isle of Wight.

"I shall move my Grand National horse, Aldaniti, to temporary quarters nearer Liverpool if the foot and mouth worsens," Gifford said. He added: "Aldaniti is absolutely A1 and I'm very pleased with him. In my opinion there are only two runners in the National—Aldaniti and Spartan Missile."

Aldaniti made a winning return at Ascot last month. His legs remain sound, but Gifford's other entry, Modesty Forbids, will not run. "He's got heart trouble after being pulled up at Sandown last week", Gifford said.

An ambitious Aintree double is now being planned by Gifford, with Aldaniti for the National, and yesterday's winner, Stonepark, for the Topham Trophy. Mrs Nick Embericos owns Stonepark, and jointly shares Aldaniti with her husband.

Aiden O'Connell, an Irish rider, teamed up with his Grand National mount, Chumson, for the first time in the Trent Handicap Steeplechase at Nottingham yesterday, but the combination finished down the field behind Highway Patt, who beat the favourite, Peter Scot, by a length.

O'Connell, who with three partners bought Chumson for 15,000 guineas, had the New Zealand-bred 10-year-old in front from the fourth to the 14th fence. From that point, he weakened, finishing last but one.

STATE OF GOING (official): Kelso: Chase Course, soft, Hurdles course, heavy. No inspection planned. Worcester: Abandoned waterlogged. Tomorrow: Doncaster: Soft. Towcester: Soft.

Boxing

Cattouse may try for Nash's European title

Ray Cattouse, the British lightweight champion, may have earned himself a crack at Charlie Nash's European title in the near future. Cattouse, aged 28, from Balham, successfully defended his title, for the fourth time, against Dave McCabe, at the St Andrews Sporting Club, in Glasgow last night—and his sights are firmly fixed on the Ulsterman's crown.

Cattouse stopped McCabe—whom he beat to win the same title a year ago—after 2min 33sec of the 15th round of a bloody battle. Now Cattouse may be able to tackle Nash as the top contender, Dave Williams, also from London, suffers from sub-standard vision which does not meet the European Boxing Union's medical rules.

Denny Mancini, a London manager, will have the rare experience of seeing two of his boxers meet each other for a title some time in the near future. Mr Mancini, manager of the Hartlepool bantamweight, John Feeney, who has already been nominated to box for the vacant British title, also produced the winner in a superb final eliminator at the Elephant and Castle on Monday night.

Dave Smith, of Eltham, outpointed Davey Larmour, of Belfast, by the narrowest possible margin to earn a championship bout with Feeney. Larmour could consider himself a shade unlucky to be edged out in a superb contest. His strength appeared to have seen him through, but the referee had the two men level at five rounds each with one shared, going into the 12th.

Phelps in épée

Richard Phelps, aged 19, currently in the United States with the British modern pentathlon team, has been chosen to represent Britain in the World youth fencing championships in Lucerne, Switzerland, over Easter.

TEAM: Foil: J. Pinnan (Portslade), D. Dale (Brentwood), B. Gosbree (Boston, London). Epée: R. Phelps (Gloucester), M. Rance (Reading), S. Henshall (Birmingham). Sabre: P. West (Ganchev, London), P. Klenerman (Ganchev, London). Women's foil: K. Arup (Paul, London), C. Gobey (Brownhill, London), K. Cecil (Boston, London).

Residential Property

Extra rooms can give you extra income

With hotel prices rising the demand for self-catering holiday rented accommodation becomes greater, as many house owners are discovering. Where the house is in a picturesque area, any surplus accommodation can become the source of useful extra income with a minimum of maintenance effort. Such a property is Passford Farm Cottage, Boldre, near Lymington, Hampshire, between the Solent and the New Forest.

The cottage is believed to be fifteenth century, and is a picturesque property with exposed timbering and accommodation, including two main reception rooms, a study and three bedrooms.

It stands in about five acres, and includes an unusually large range of outbuildings; a former coaching stable has already been converted into a separate bungalow with a combined sitting and dining room and two bedrooms.

Above it is a large loft which could be made into a separate flat, subject to planning permission. There is also a large two-storey brick and slate barn which could probably be converted into further accommodation. The property is for sale at about £135,000 and the agents are Fox and Sons of Lymington.

Extra self-contained accommodation is also provided by Laurel House, Somerleyton, near Lowestoft on the Norfolk and Suffolk border. Believed to date from about 1820 it was once occupied by the managing agent of the Somerleyton Estate and is well situated in a conservation area close to the coast and the Norfolk Broads.

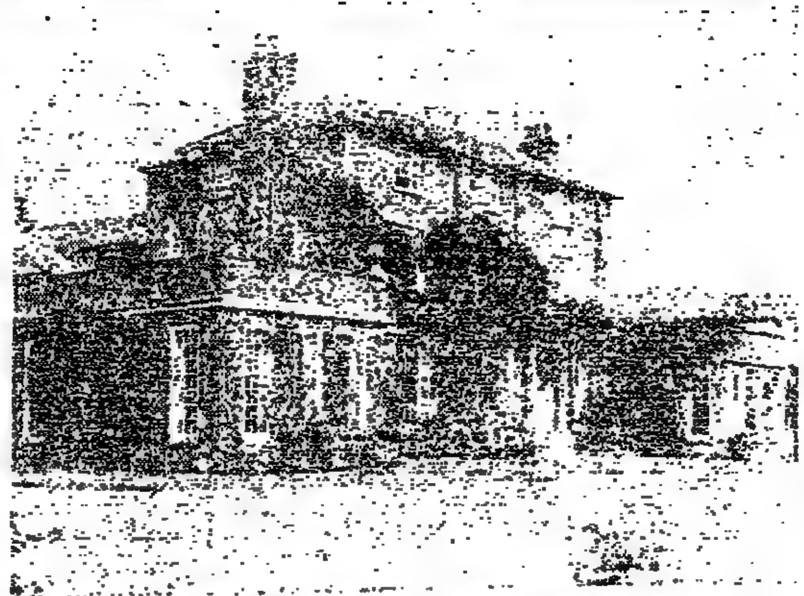
It is a roomy property and has a drawing room 23ft long, two reception rooms and five bedrooms. In the garden is a former coach house recently converted into separate accommodation consisting of a living room with a kitchen extension, two bedrooms and bathroom. The price is £75,000 and the agents are Strutt and Parker of Norwich.

An elegant compact house is The Old Vicarage, Duxford, near Cambridge, which stands beside the village green. No definite date can be ascribed to the house which is early Georgian in character, although it is known that there was a vicarage on the site in the seventeenth century. Probably it is a mixture of periods.

Constructed of white-painted brick under a slate roof, it is approached through fine wrought iron gates. There are three reception rooms, five bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a good cellar. The garden, with a paddock, totals about 2½ acres. Offers over £130,000 are being asked through Lane Fox and Partners of London, and Sworders of Saffron Walden.

Different in character is Midsummer House, Littlebury, Essex, which has a frontage to the River Cam. Thought to date back to about 1660, it has a grade two listing as being of special architectural or historic interest and is built on a heavy timber frame with cream-coloured rendering.

A feature is a drawing room with some good timbering and an inglenook fireplace. There is an unusual combined hall and sitting room with a galleried landing. As well, there is a dining room, study or playroom, five bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is half an acre of garden with the river as a boundary. Savills of Chelmsford are asking about £115,000.



Hope Court, at Hope Bagot, Shropshire: Georgian elegance at £160,000

Another property with a river frontage is Willow House, Bray, near Maidenhead, Berkshire, which leads down to the River Thames. The property was probably built after the First World war and has two large reception rooms, a combined kitchen and breakfast room, five bedrooms and two bathrooms

An attractive feature is the garden of about one third of an acre and includes a timber summerhouse and a large swimming pool. It has a frontage of about 100ft to the river, with a full-length landing stage and steps. The property is open to offers in the region of £175,000 and the agents are Giddy and Giddy of Maidenhead.

Water is also a feature of Hope Court, Hope Bagot, near Ludlow, Shropshire, which has a number of small lakes and pools in its gardens. Once a bird sanctuary it is still visited by large numbers of Canada geese. The house is Georgian and has a grade two listing.

Accommodation includes four reception rooms, a breakfast room, seven bedrooms and four bathrooms. Extensive outbuildings include a garage block for five cars, and attached to the block is a cottage with two reception rooms and three bedrooms.

The property extends to some 19 acres in which there is an area of woodland divided by a stream with small waterfalls. The price is £160,000 and the agents are the Hereford office of Knight Frank and Rutley.

A house with a lot of character is Bignell's Cottage, Itchen Abbas, near Winchester, Hampshire, one of the oldest properties in the Itchen Valley and thought to date from about 1700.

It has a reception hall, three reception rooms, three bedrooms and two bathrooms. The land, including a paddock, extends to just over an acre and there are fine views across the valley from the property. Offers in the region of £85,000 are being asked through the Winchester office of John D. Wood.

Possibly of fifteenth century origins, Glebe Cottage, Rockbourne, near Fordingbridge on the border of Hampshire and Wiltshire, was at one time owned by the Church Commissioners as a gardener's cottage for the vicar of the local church. It is of cruck construction and has two interconnecting sitting rooms and three bedrooms.

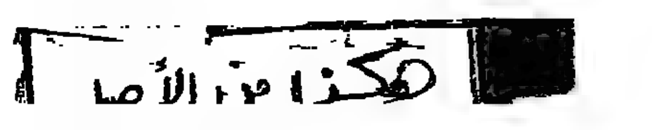
The present owner acquired it just over 20 years ago in a derelict condition and virtually rebuilt it. The property, including a paddock, runs to some two acres and can be bought for about £73,500 through the New Milton office of Jackson and Jackson.

Gerald E

Residential property



LONDON AND SUBURBAN



Majestic contributions to Dickensian scholarship

Picking the outstanding book of the year is a contentious and silly business, though fun. But in the long eye of history it is hard to see anything more important this year than two books that are published tomorrow: Volume V of the Pilgrim Edition of The Letters of Charles Dickens and the Clarendon edition of David Copperfield.

Both are majestic works of scholarship, establishing definitive texts that will not need revision until the Last Trump sounds the opening of the heavenly library. Both throw new light on one of our greatest writers. By a happy coincidence the letters, from the year 1847 to 1849, cover the start of serial publication of *Copperfield*, revealing significant echoes and cross-references. Both are exquisitely printed, annotated, illustrated, appendixed, bound, and otherwise published by Oxford. And Professor Kathleen Tillotson is a general editor of both stately enterprises that will last until the crack of doom, though with luck publication will be finished before then.

Our foremost Dickensian scholar has a fastidious distaste for personal publicity, emphasizing that what matter are the words, and the scholarship, and the teamwork of her distinguished colleagues and predecessors. But her 75th birthday on April 3 seemed a convenient excuse to bully her into giving her first interview to the press.

An example of the scholarship. In Volume IV of the *Letters* Dickens, who was doing a lot of foreign travel during the period, wrote that he had been looking out for fireflies around Rome because he had read about them in his Dryden translation of Juvenal, or perhaps it was Horace, that he was lugging round with him in his bag. Several weeks work produced the terse footnote: "Horace nowhere mentions fireflies." Kathleen Tillotson says: "Much scholarship is the hunt to prove a negative, or to produce the melancholy gloss 'unidentified'." When she laughs, beneath hair as white as lamb's wool you see the face of the pretty scholarship girl from the north. Her flat, with a stunning view of Parliament Hill, is wall-papered floor to ceiling with classical texts and reference books as well as English literature; Dickens fills the box room so that there is only just space for a small person to slip in sideways.

There are at least another seven volumes of the letters to come, followed by a massive index, and at least half a volume of *addenda*. When Humphrey and Madeline House started, they knew of 12,000 letters. We now know of 13,452, and Professor Tillotson was just off to Sotheby's where eight previously unknown letters were coming up for sale.,

Dickens was so prolific partly because he became famous so young. There were all the business letters, the fan mail, the charitable and politicking letters, and in the new volume the letters to *The Times* about the evils of public executions that stirred up vast mail and uproar. Unlike Henry James or Virginia Woolf he was not interested in discussing the creative process in his letters. But just occasionally he lets us into his mystery. In the new volume he discusses the style of *The Haunted Man*, his last Christmas book: "As the inventor of this sort of story, I may be allowed to plead that I think a little dreaminess and vagueness essential to its effect...."

Then there are the echoes. In a letter John Leech, the artist, taken ill on the Isle of Wight, is "like a ship in distress, in a sea of bedclothes." Cf. David Copperfield, having a sleepless night worrying about Dora, and his poor aunt, and life: "I was always tossing about like a distressed ship in a sea of bed-clothes." It was published eight months after the letter.

The creative process is better illuminated in the Clarendon edition, with its recension of the manuscript, variants, number plans, and comprehensive apparatus criticus. The bits we have never seen before are so exciting. In the new *Copperfield* there is a lovely scene eventually cut by Dickens in which Steerforth is flirting with Mrs Gummidge, the lone lorn creetur. "Just the type of a certain young man who can get round old ladies", said the general editor, not too severely.

Five of the 15 novels are out in the Clarendon edition. *Chuzzlewit* is in the Press. Several others are quite well on, including a volume of miscellaneous papers. The admirable new Oxford paperback series of *The World's Classics* has just agreed to use the Clarendon texts with reduced apparatus and new introductions: *Oliver Twist* and *Dombey* come next year. The great engine of scholarship rolls on, driven by its brilliant but self-effacing crew. We are lucky to live in a generation that can read such publications.

Philip Howard





Left: preliminary sketch by Hablot Knight Browne ("Phiz"), rarely seen before, for "I make my self Known to my Aunt"; right: the final version

The Grateful Dead
Rainbow

Richard Williams

The Grateful Dead are unusual not merely because they have been together for 15 years with only one significant change in personnel but because, unlike the even longer-lived Rolling Stones or The Who, they have chosen not to broaden their scope or change with the times. Their music is exactly as it was in the early summer of 1970, when they made their British debut, and they continue to reflect with scrupulous exactness the era of their prime, now long past but evidently (to judge by the nature of Monday night's audience) still cherished in many hearts.

Gently, at a marijuana smoker's pace, they eased into their four-hour concert with a selection of songs recalling the early days of country rock, sung with their customary amateurish charm by the guitarists, Jerry Garcia and Bob Weir, given necessary support on the choruses by the group's newest member, Brent Mydland, who also played keyboards. Garcia's pretty "Sugaree" and Weir's surprising version of "El Paso" were the best of these, rivalled by a trenchant blues incorporating Mydland's screaming Hammond organ.

It was fully an hour before they ventured into the first of their famously discursive collective improvisations, this one in a medium 7/4 tempo capably anchored by their two drummers, Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzmann. Here Garcia was unleashed, to display his renowned pearly tone, stiff phrasing and utter lack of melodic imagination, well prompted by Weir's thoughtful chording, as outstanding throughout the concert as it was 11 years ago.

In addition to several of the more venerable items from their repertoire, the second half included "If I Had My Way", the gospel song once popularized by Peter, Paul and Mary, here given a slashing Bo Diddley rhythm with chattering drums (which showed off the relaxed, complementary nature of the relationship between Hart and Kreutzmann) and an untypically flashy but highly effective ending.

The audience's pronounced good nature was tested, however, by many lengthy silences, during which the guitarists adjusted their tuning with the aid of stroboscopic devices. Eventually this prompted the reflection that, if God had meant rock musicians to stay in tune, He would have taught them more than three chords.

Work is the Curse of the Drinking Classes
King's Head

Ned Chaillet

Actors spend most of their time being other people, and one must forgive them for that. Some of the people they choose to be are quite charming or interesting, which is just as well. But when it comes to one-man shows, actors tend to become people we have all heard of, and so the lunchtime programmes at the King's Head Theatre rouse Evelyn Waugh from the dead, without access to his own written words, or they give us a famous name with a pungent selection of his best written and spoken words, like this week's Oscar Wilde.

Neil Titley's evocation of Wilde is much more enjoyable than most such excursions, although someone has designed a berserk lighting plot which often hides the character in shadows or a blinding glare. From what I could see, there were some touches of Mr Titley's costume that needed to be hidden.

He offers the Wilde of Paris, impoverished and disgraced by two years in an English jail, and yet he still strains to be fastidious, in his dress and in his wit. Mr Titley's costume fails to help the characterization, for although he has painted his face a ghostly white (well, Wilde is dead), and wears white gloves and a white tie, his shoes and socks are a disgrace to impersonation. His vocal characterization is a more certain thing, honed to deliver the sharp jests and observations of Wilde's wit.

Mr Titley has selected and connected his quotations with a good sense of the story that Wilde might tell, passing from fashionable fame to scorned ignominy with his eyes wide open. The show makes no special plea for understanding, which should no longer be necessary anyway, but it does offer a mordant self-knowledge. It is a good portrait, funny and melancholic, of the face behind Dorian Gray.

Melos Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Joan Chissell

Obviously such masterpieces as the three last quartets in A minor, D minor and G and the string quintet of 1828 must form the cornerstones of the Melos Quartet's four Schubert recitals at Wigmore Hall. But, as record collectors know, few artists in recent years have done more than this Stuttgart-based team for the 11 or so neglected quartets that Schubert wrote in his teens primarily for family pleasure. The chance of renewing acquaintance with half-a-dozen of them is not the least rewarding part of this welcome little festival.

No 4 in C Major came first in their third concert on Monday a choice which the opening movement alone would have justified with its remarkable chromatic introduction, its startling contrasts of dynamics and key, and its sudden silences opening up a strange new world of romance.

From this they jumped to No 8 in B flat of the following year, its 17-year-old composer having moved on from an orchestral style of scoring to truer quartet texture (even if still occasionally doffing his cap to Haydn, Mozart and early Beethoven) as well as achieving far greater subtlety in the first two movements, transitions.

As ever, the Melos were acutely responsive to every imaginative stroke. But both performances struck me as still more stylish than on their much praised recording, because they were a little more fleet and tingling, the point-making less self-conscious.

For "Death And The Maiden" after the interval they understandably broadened and intensified their style for dramatic effect. Not a note was left unturned in pursuit of expression. Bigger climaxes were reinforced with uncommonly full-bodied tone and a strident bite in sforzandi. Sometimes their romanticism even sounded a little over-ripe. But it was teamwork of the first order, culminating in a breathless, brilliant dance of death.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Opera around Europe

La Périchole
Sadler's Wells

William Mann

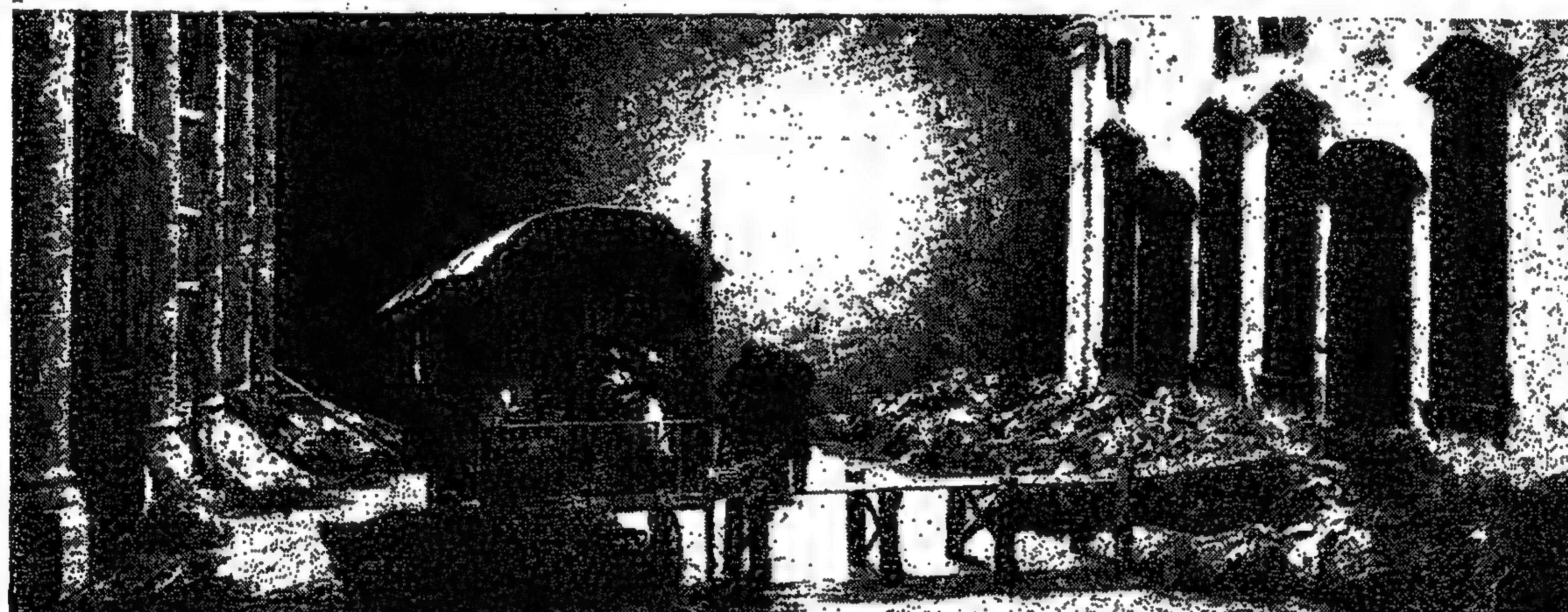
The Singers Company have arrived in London again, bringing a week of Offenbach operetta (never too late for the composer's centenary) to Sadler's Wells Theatre in Rosebery Avenue. Their new production, of *Orpheus in the Underworld*, will be given later this week. They began on Monday with Peter Knapp's English version, and his production, of *La Périchole*, first put on two years ago at Riverside Studios, much toured since then, and shown on BBC television.

Périchole has always teetered on the verge of the Offenbach repertory outside France. It is the story of the Spanish viceroy in Peru who took a street-singer as his mistress, and, being obliged by private vow never to seduce unmarried women, had her wed to the first man drunk enough to agree. She also had been rendered inebriate before accepting the Viceroy's proposal, and at the wedding neither party could see the other. Next day, Périchole discovered that her husband was the sweetheart she had been too poor to wed.

After that, the plot by Meilhac and Halévy loses impetus, with one-and-a-half acts still to go. Offenbach's musical inspiration was still game: if the plums seem all to have been delivered when Act Two begins, the most succulent of them, "Tu n'es pas beau, tu n'es pas riche", is saved until the prison scene in the last act. And there are numerous other delights less famous, but still treasured by Offenbach devotees.

For touring purposes, Knapp had the music re-scored by his conductor John Owen Edwards, for his company's small band—not much smaller than Offenbach's, but tending to modern show-biz sonority (the electric piano, quasi-harmonium, sounds cheap and nasty in this music). He sets the entire piece in a Paris café, frequented by Offenbach who tries out his new *opéra bouffe* there and then, with the help of the customers. An impromptu atmosphere thus excuses the absence of scenery for the Viceroy's palace, the jail, and so on; it does not fully excuse the hectic romping and prancing into which the production has declined since it was new.

A show that went well in intimate surroundings at Riverside, or on television, finds itself uncomfortably exposed in the larger stage area of Sadler's Wells, and its pristine tautness begins to sag, like the libretto of *Périchole*. The band plays with spirit, and the production still has the prime blessing of Eirian James in the title role, a trim, sparkling young dynamo, with a warm, expert mezzo-soprano, and ample range as a comic actress. Mike Bulman is still her stalwart romantic Piquillo. The Viceroy is now taken, with nervous avuncular relish, by Richard Suart, a drolly Dickensian impersonation.



The Act III quartet in *Rigoletto*, by the banks of the Mincio

Rigoletto
Grand Theatre, Geneva

John Higgins

Anyone who uproots *Rigoletto* from the sixteenth century, in which Verdi and his librettist, Piave, eventually decided to set their opera, does so at his peril. The curse of Monterone is likely to extend from Rigoletto through to the whole work, which is none too susceptible to change. In Geneva, however, Jean-Marie Simon has taken the risk and he comes within a whisker of total success.

The curtain rises on a stage set without rather than within the ducal palace. The terrace outside the ballroom looks out across the flatlands of Mantua to the river Mincio, which is to play an important role in the last act, winding its way down to the Po. Then Simon tricks his audience. The revellers are in the costume of the conventional *Rigoletto*, but through their number come other courtiers wearing the black frock-coats of early Victorian society. We are at a fancy-dress ball and the action which follows takes place in the period of Verdi's youth.

Simon argues in a brief programme note that Verdi was constantly forced by the censor to alter the time and place of his operas. Consequently his voice on occasion had to be muted. The lordlings who ruled in and round Mantua in 1830, or thereabouts, were much like the contemporaries of Machiavelli and had no compunction at all in dispatching those who did not fit in with the manners and morals of the court. Whether the curse of a non-conformist such as Monterone would have carried quite so much weight in the nineteenth century as in the sixteenth is rather more debatable.



Valerie Masterson and Piero Cappuccilli

The main advantage in updating, which Simon leaves the audience to discover without adding his own comments, is that *Rigoletto* is turned from a costume piece into a domestic drama close to the style of *Luisa Miller* and *La traviata*, works which precede and succeed it by two years apiece. Rigoletto (Piero Cappuccilli) is a hunchback not through any monstrous deformity but because the cares of the world have lain across his shoulders too heavily and too long. His tattered coat, his bushy white hair, his shambling gait and his habit of appearing shiftily round the corners of darkened streets proclaim that he is long past joining in the debauchery of the Mantuan court. His solace is Gilda and his home is in one of the back streets with its upper courtyard above a high wall and the single old tree and bench which Piave demanded.

Jean-Marie Simon in common with several of our best opera producers began life as a designer. He worked with Zeffirelli and Visconti as well as with the two Peters, Brook and Hall. Their joint influences show in the punctiliousness with which the stage pictures are built up and in their ultimate beauty. The dawn of the opening act is lit in a way recalling Joseph Losey's film of *Don Giovanni*, which after all was filmed none too far away from Mantua—any moment Ottavio could have appeared being poled across the Mincio marshes.

But Simon's triumph undoubtedly is the final act where the same Mincio flows right across the centre of the stage, and a very different river it is from the one viewed from the Duke of Mantua's terrace. The banks are strewn with refuse and if all had gone according to Rigoletto's plan another sack would have been added to it. Sparafucile has a caravan, where Maddalena can entertain her clients, parked in the mud: those in a hurry can wade to it while the more fastidious can use a catwalk from the far bank. The two sides of Mantua are immediately made clear: the squalor of the underworld and the big spenders at the Duke's court, although even here the peeling columns suggest more money went on women and wine than on keeping the palazzo in decent repair.

The only criticism to be levelled at Simon's staging is an apparent disregard for time and season. The same misty orb is in the sky whether it be the sun or the moon. Rigoletto's tree is wintry and leafless, although Gilda herself wears only a flimsy dress. The height of the wall, too, prevents father and daughter embracing, as Verdi required, at the end of "Figlia, addio".

These, though, are minor quibbles. Simon has drawn from Piero Cappuccilli, who can be an uncomfortably stolid figure on stage, a Rigoletto of great tenderness, an outcast at the court who suddenly finds his sole refuge broken into and burgled. Cappuccilli must have sung the role now almost 300 times: the voice remains firm and secure as a mighty rock but a more sensitive conductor than Nello Santi would probably have encouraged him to use a little more vocal colour.

Valerie Masterson, who now appears well over her vocal troubles of last summer, creates a fragile, timid Gilda. It is not the sort of interpretation that would be found in an Italian house but it accords admirably with the Simon interpretation. "Caro nome" was exquisitely shaped with no false display, the dreamy delight of a girl who has just been bowled over by her first boy. In the second act she was somewhat overpowered by Cappuccilli, but by the banks of the Mincio came back to full strength. It is good news that she will be returning to Geneva for Gounod's *Mireille* next season. Peter Dvorsky seems to have put on vocal weight since he last sang the Duke at Covent Garden; the start of phrases lacked clean attack, but he warmed greatly with the evening. Among the rest of the cast there was a powerful Sparafucile (Giovanni Foiani), an indifferent Monterone (Bhus Hanak) and Gillian Knight's Maddalena, the sensuous siren of the Mincio.

Nello Santi's conducting had little to recommend it. The start was raucous and the improvement thereafter only modest. Geneva, which nowadays is looking such a strong house in other respects, needs improvement in the pit. There are further performances tomorrow, on Saturday, and on Tuesday.

Stuttgart novelties in London

The Stuttgart Ballet returns to London in June with a repertoire of eight works not previously performed by the company in Britain. It will open its two-week season at the London Coliseum on June 1 with John Neumeier's full-length *Lady of the Camellias*, to music by Chopin. In the second week it will present John Cranko's *Swan Lake*.

There will be two triple bills, with the first offering Jiri Kylian's *Sinfonia*, to music by Britten, Rosemary Helliwell's *Hedda Gabler*, to music by Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, and *Whisper Moon*, choreographed by William Forsythe and Axel Manthey. In the second triple bill there will be Kylian's *Return to the Strange Land*, to music by Janacek, Heinz Spoerli's *Träume*, to music by Wagner, and Cranko's *Presence*, to music by Bernd Alois Zimmermann.

Antoinette Sibley and Anthony Dowell will appear with the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet on April 1 in a special performance to mark the Fiftieth anniversaries of the Royal Ballet and of the Sadler's Wells theatre. They will dance Ashton's *Soupirs*, *pas de deux*,

On April 7 and 8 the company will present six ballets new to London audiences, including the premiere of David Bintley's *Night Moves*, set to Britten's Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge, with Marion Tait and David Ashmole leading the cast. Another premiere will be Derek Deane's *To the Power of Two*, which will be danced by Lesley Collier, Jennifer Penney, Stephen Jefferies and Stephen Beagley to music from Tippett's Concerto for Double String Orchestra. The designs and lighting are by Anthony Dowel.

The television programme *The Commanding Sea*, reviewed by Miles Kington on Monday, is to be screened on BBC 2 next Sunday.



How the Social Democrats joined forces for their biggest gamble

The Times Political Staff examines the people behind tomorrow's launch of a new party

The Social Democrats launch themselves tomorrow on the gamble that a large section of the public—not yet a majority—yearns for a new force in British politics. What new thinking they can bring to policy remains to be spelt out. But what links the dominant Labour politicians among them is the sense that their own party has been heading mostly in the wrong direction since its 1970 election defeat.

They are notably reinforced by personal and political friendships with Mrs Shirley Williams and Mr Roy Jenkins. But the blunt fact is that their hour has come because of Mr Michael Foot. Had Mr Healey won the Labour leadership there would have been no brave new gang, unless between a lone Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel's Liberals.

The jeer that they might be "aristocratic, advanced Tory . . . progressives who don't like the proletariat", advanced in *The Times* yesterday by Mr Eric Heffer, of Labour's left, will not wash. Taking the 13 Labour MP defectors, by birth, five are from the working class, two from lower middle and six from the middle class. In politics they have favoured EEC membership and been alert to defence, but that is not all.

Publicity has already been lavished on the Gang of Three, then Four, former Cabinet ministers. But some reminders run through the collective story. Jenkins, aged 60, is not their oldest adherent (Richard Crawshaw, who resigned as Deputy Speaker, is 63), but he has been around longest, having been elected an MP in 1948. Jenkins will not say so but he would *like to be Prime Minister*—while acknowledging that Shirley Williams is reckoned to *be their chief electoral asset.*

William Rodgers, son of a Liverpool Corporation clerk, at the same high school as Peter Shore, is only 52 but seems to have been around forever backstage in Labour politics. Even before he entered Parliament in 1962 he had been chief organizer for Hugh Gaitskell's successful reversal of the Labour conference decision on unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Dr David Owen, taken by many to be the most ambitious and arrogant, can also seem the most carefree. If the venture collapses he says he will happily go back to practising medicine (he had been a neurology and psychiatric registrar). He is now the most scorned among senior Labour MPs. One scoffed that "Owen has enjoyed joining this breakaway movement, no doubt encouraged by his American wife who expects him to act the young Kennedy and one day be Prime Minister."

Among the 13, there are many sub-groups. Four are MPs in Labour's north-east stronghold; all 13 are said to have supported the splinter faction and ironically named Campaign for Labour Victory. The interconnexion of junior ministers and parliamentary private secretaryships is striking. None more so than those around Mr Jenkins.

Old hands at the Treasury have noted, for instance, that Mr Jenkins has built around him the old team which used to operate at the Treasury in 1967-70. They were always a closely knit team: Mr Jenkins, Chancellor of the Exchequer; his Parliamentary Private Secretary, Mr Tom Bradley; Mr Jack (now Lord) Diamond, Chief Secretary; Mr Dick Taverne, QC, Financial Secretary; Mr Rodgers, Minister of State, and Mr Edward Lyons, QC, Parliamentary Private Secretary to the two last.

Among the less well known nationally, Mr Tom Bradley (Leicester East) should know as much about Labour's internecine warfare as anyone. For years he served on inquiries by the National Executive Committee into constituency party disruptions. He investigated Dick Taverne's troubles at Lincoln, Eddie Milne's at Blyth and Reginald Prentice's at Newham North-East.

Mr Bradey, aged 54, has been a prominent figure in the intra-party fighting ever since he was elected to the NEC in 1966.

The battles have been many. He was one of those, for example, who led and maintained the campaign for the publication of the so-called Underhill Report into Trotskyist entryism into the party.

His quiet courage even led him to disagree with Roy Jenkins over In Place of Strife.

Mr Jenkins's resignation as deputy leader of the Labour Party was probably one of Mr Bradley's biggest disappointments. *He actively urged him* to stay on and continue the battle over Europe and other issues.

A *former* chairman of the Labour Party, Mr Bradley has roots which push deep into the movement. A Bevin boy, he worked underground in the mines and as a politician rose through local councils and his unions, unsuccessfully standing as a Labour candidate in a number of parliamentary seats before reaching Westminster in 1962.

Mr Richard Crawshaw (Liverpool, Toxteth), a barrister, who still likes to be known by his military rank, lieutenant-colonel (he served with distinction in the Royal Artillery and the Parachute Regiment), was a theological student before the war. He was much respected as a member of the Commons chairman's panel, noted for his fairness and commonsense whenever there was a dispute in committee. And he was Deputy Speaker between 1979-81.

He is a keep-fit enthusiast and has earned a lot of money for charities on his long-distance sponsored walks.

Mr Tom Ellis (Wrexham), son of a miner, is a quintessential Labour romantic who sharpened his attitudes on the sparse, unromantic poetry of his Welsh hero, R. S. Thomas.

Armed with an honours degree in chemistry, he worked for ICI for two years until the nationalization of the coal-mines and decided to return whence he came, taking a massive reduction in salary and working down the pit. With his education and ideological commitment to the mines, the National Coal Board took him away from the coalface back to college and eventually to a colliery in his constituency where he was manager for 14 years before being elected as MP for Wrexham.

But Westminster quickly undermined the romantic attitude to politics, disenchantment setting in when he was on the Labour team that fought Sir Geoffrey Howe's Industrial Relations Bill in committee. He found he could not share the view of his Labour colleagues.

Mr Robert Maclennan, barrister (Caithness and Sutherland) is strongly pro-European and had been a Labour frontbench spokesman on Scottish affairs and defence. He was Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection in 1974-79.

After launching the party in Edinburgh and Aberdeen tomorrow, Mr Maclennan will attend the Scottish Liberal Party conference in Galashiels on Friday and Saturday. He will be introduced by Lord Mackie of Benshee, the Liberal whom he defeated at Caithness and Sutherland in 1966. It seems likely that Mr Maclennan will run again at Caithness with Liberal backing.

Mr Neville Sandelson, a barrister who has represented Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington since 1971, is a natural recruit for the Social Democrats since he has fought a running battle with the left-wingers in his constituency party for more than eight years. He is given to violent language in his attacks on the left and on the moderates in the party

He broke with the Manifesto group because he did not think they were taking a tough enough stand. Among Labour moderates he is regarded as an *enfant terrible*

John Horam, known as "Smiler" at school, was elected for Gateshead West in 1970 and immediately became one of the moderate MPs who started to organize a counter to the Tribune group of Labour MPs. It was out of these meetings that the Manifesto group was born.

Mr Horam's childhood was spent above the Preston newsagent's shop run by his mother—his father was a fitter—but was sent to Silcoates boarding school when his parents inherited money from his grandfather.

From there he won an exhibition to Cambridge, gaining a degree in economics, and later became a journalist on *The Financial Times* and *The Economist*.

Mr Horam campaigned from the Labour backbenches for development agencies in the regions, as well as in Scotland and Wales, and in 1976 was appointed a junior minister for transport when Mr William Rodgers was head of the department.

Ian Wrigglesworth (Thornaby, Teesside) came up through the Labour political nursery fighting the left-wing inside the National Union of Students: in the 1960s he was a vice-president of the NUS.

The son of a foreman fitter on Teesside, he has known his constituency from childhood. He first went into a bank but left to attend a teacher's training college in London, then, in another switch, he studied to become a probation officer.

His political-union career began as personal assistant to the general secretary of the National Union of Teachers. Later he was research and information officer to the National Co-operative Party. When he was elected to Parliament he joined the Manifesto group and also became PPS to Roy Jenkins.

Another North-east stalwart of the Co-op movement is Mike Thomas (Newcastle East), at 36 the youngest of the group. The son of a Liverpool heating and ventilating engineer he went to Liverpool University and resents the "posh" smear being applied to the Social Democrats. He was elected in 1974, was parliamentary private secretary to Roy Hattersley. He had no time for the theorising of the Labour left, and was ever alert to publicizing the counter-attack of the Labour moderates. He also launched the "House Magazine", the weekly journal of parliament. Prior to resigning from Labour he circularized all his constituents, at his expense, soliciting their advice on what his decision should be.

Acting as whip in the Commons of the new group is John Roper (Farnworth). The son of a Congregational minister, he went to Oxford, became an economics lecturer and, by way of time at Chicago University, is the only one of the group to have direct knowledge of the teachings of Professor Milton Friedman. He was active in organizing (in vain) the attempt to get proportional representation for the European Assembly through the Commons

There were three MPs who did not resign in the initial flush of enthusiasm—two Labour and the lone Conservative, John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East), an ally on the NEC of Shirley Williams and Tom Bradley, agonized longest. Before he became an MP in 1974 he had been an executive grade civil servant, a professional Labour agent and then a political secretary in the Cooperative movement.

A grammar school boy from Woking, Cartwright has a rather austere manner, but his interest in defence and EEC policies and his association with Shirley Williams led him, via the Manifesto group, of which he was the previous past chairman, straight to defection.

The last Labour man to jump was Edward Lyons (Bradford West), a QC and Recorder. He had fought a running battle with Militant Tendency activists in his local party and latterly the moderates had come out on top—until some of them defected with him. Son of a Jewish tailor, Lyons, aged 54, served in the Royal Artillery during the war and did a course as a Russian interpreter before taking up law. Elected in 1966, he has been highly critical of trade union abuses.

The lone Tory, who dramatically crossed the floor of the Commons last week, is Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler (Norfolk North-West). Long a vehement critic of Mrs Thatcher, his disaffection with Tory policies was no surprise.

He had been a former chairman of the Bow Group—which allowed its members to say that it was not true they had become purely right-wing. Son of a solicitor, he did not have a university education but had wide experience of farming here and in Kenya.

Lady Burton of Coventry, a former world champion sprinter, has won fame as the champion of the consumer, notably her successful campaign to get British Airways to maintain a check-in point in Gloucester Road. She is now trying to persuade the airlines to change their booking methods to avoid overbooking and is working on what she calls "bucket shops" in the travel and holiday trade.

Fred Emery, George Clark and Michael Hatfield

Leading Social Democrats from Parliament

House of Commons	Constituency	Majority at last election
Tom Bradley (L)	Leicester, East	2,856
John Cartwright (L)	Greenwich Woolwich, East	10,460
Richard Crawshaw (L)	Liverpool, Toxteth	6,143
Tom Ellis (L)	Wrexham	12,149
Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler (C)	Norfolk, North West	7,928
John Horam (L)	Gateshead, West	8,312
Edward Lyons (L)	Bradford, West	7,755
Robert Maclennan (L)	Caithness and Sutherland	2,539
David Owen (L)	Plymouth, Devonport	1,001
William Rogers (L)	Teesside, Stockton	11,127
John Roper (L)	Farnworth	8,107
Neville Sanderson (L)	Hillingdon Hayes & Harlington	3,302
Mike Thomas (L)	Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East	6,170
Ina Wrigglesworth (L)	Teesside, Thornaby	5,524

Former MPs	
Roy Jenkins	MP for Setchford, Birmingham 1950-76
Shirley Williams	MP for Hertford & Stevenage 1974-79

House of Lords		Recent position*
Lord Ashby (C-B)	(Eric Ashby)	Chancellor, Queen's University, Belfast
Lord Aylestone of Aylestone (L)	(Herbert Bowden)	Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs 1966-67
Lord Bullock of Leafield, Oxon (C-B)	(Alan Bullock)	Academic
Lady Burton of Coventry (L)	(Elaine Burton	Labour MP 1950-59
Lord Diamond of the City of Gloucester (L)	(John Diamond)	Labour Cabinet 1968-79
Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge (L)	(John Donaldson)	Minister for the Arts 1976-79
Lord Flowers (C-B)	(Brian Flowers)	Rector of Imperial College
Viscount Hanworth (C-B)	(David Pollock)	barrister
Lord Harris of Greenwich (L)	(John Harris)	Minister of State, Home Office 1974-79
Lord Hunt of Llanfair Waterdine (C-B)	(John Hunt)	Chairman, Parole Board, 1967-74
Lord Kennet of the Dene (L)	(Wayland Young)	Member of European Parliament [illegible]
Lord Kilmarnock (C-B)	(Alastair Boyd)	Chief of the Clan Boyd
Lord Perry of Walton (C-B)	(Walter Perry)	Vice-Chancellor, Open University
Lord Sainsbury of Drury Lane (L)	(Alan Sainsbury)	Joint President, J. Sainsbury Ltd
Lord Taylor of Gryfe (L)	(Thomas Taylor)	Chairman, Scottish Railways Board
Lord Walston of Newton (L)	(Henry Walston)	Member of European Parliament 1975-77
Lord Wilson of Langside (L)	(Henry Wilson)	Lord Advocate 1967-70
Lord Winterbottom (L)	(Ian Winterbottom)	Lords Whip 1974-78
Lord Young of Dartington (L)	(Michael Young)	President of Consumers' Association

L: Labour. C: Conservative. C-B: Cross benches. * Not a complete list of appointments.



Bernard Levin

Hold the front page: nothing has happened

It is well known that no news is good news; what is less widely understood is that good news is bad news. And this particular bit of truly significant news has not yet, apparently, penetrated to China, where the authorities have decreed, according to a report by the *Daily Another Paper's* inquisitive and entertaining Peking correspondent, Graham Earnshaw, that only good news is to be reported, and that stories of such negative matters as crime and corruption are no longer to be published. Stories of upright citizens labouring tirelessly are the in thing; a lady who worked in a factory tirelessly labouring at the production of toothpaste for the state and, when she died, bequeathed all of which she died possessed to the said state, has been posthumously and publicly canonized, as have two men who were drowned while trying to rescue a girl who had fallen into a river. (I am not sure that the newspaper which reported the latter story had fully got the hang of the new rules; surely it could have better filled the space with accounts of girls who had not fallen into the river in the first place.)

It won't work, I'm afraid. The heirs of Mao are only the latest in the long line of those who have dreamed the same dream; that if you do not draw attention to the darkness, it will turn to light of its own accord. The hunger is constantly making itself felt in this country, too; it's a poor month that doesn't see a letter in one newspaper or another complaining that the press only prints bad news. Yet a newspaper which accepted the premise of this Pathetic Fallacy and published nothing but that which can be seen through rose-coloured spectacles would speedily find its readers deserting in their numbers to rivals unafraid of pointing out that life is not altogether a bowl of cherries, and the only reason that such a fate will not overtake the Chinese papers under the new dispensation is that the readers have no rival sheets to desert to.

Words are not things, nor things words. If (and the Chinese rulers are just the lads to try it) the entrance to a sewage-farm were to be decorated with a sign 40 feet high bearing the message "4711 Made Here", I can assure those whom it might concern that the surrounding air would still not be fragrant with the scent of *eau de cologne*, or even roast chicken. Portraying the Chinese people as free of all blemish, and the life they lead as no less untroubled by mischance, will not make them so; if it has any effect at all, it will serve only to alienate the people from their leaders, for whatever else the Chinese may be, they are plainly not daft, and they will speedily take the measure of the difference between what their rulers tell them and what they can see with their own epicanthus-laden eyes.

The problem can be summed up in a dozen words: we do not wish to be told that which we already know. We know that most husbands do not murder their wives, that few bank managers abscond with the funds, that although some aeroplanes crash, far more arrive safely, that not every dog will bite. And we know these things for a reason far deeper and more important than that provided by the statistics which bear our our convictions. We are instinctively possessed of the truth that the universe runs on the principle that the bad is the exception to the good; they are not equals, and the Manichee is wrong. We know that every day many people are injured in road accidents, many robbed or assaulted by villains, many struck by an infinite variety of the slings and arrows of outrageous failure. Yet we do not go about the streets thinking that our next mom is going to be our last one, even our last trouble-free c because although we may believe that there's a divi doth shape our ends, rough-h them how we may, we do lieve, rightly, that normality normal.

And it follows from this t what attracts our attention; awakens our interest is the ception, which means, broa speaking, the bad news. headline reading "Nea 55,000,000 people not struck lightning in Britain last yea will not sell newspapers, r will it deserve to. And I ca not believe that things are a different in China, where news item in the *People's Dai* recording the fact that practi ally all the wheat sown th previous spring had grown up wards rather than downwards is unlikely to have the readers spilling their breakfast coffee into their laps in their excitement.

I do not believe it is true that people like to read about the misfortunes of others out of *schadenfreude*. I think it much more likely that we seek and find, reassurance in bad news—the reassurance that not only has it not happened to us but that it has all along been most unlikely to.

Many years ago I read, or perhaps dreamed, an account of a couple who, convinced that death was *only* a conditioned reflex, determined to bring up their son in complete ignorance of its very existence, so that if their theory was right he would be immortal, as by the time he discovered death he would be conditioned to remain unaffected by it. His children's books were scrutinized for references to the forbidden topic: plausible explanations were devised for the puzzling fact that he no longer had his puppy and was not visited any more by his grandmother; certainly, he was allowed no newspapers. And the rulers in China seem to be attempting something as absurd as the experiment of these two lunatics, not much less macabre, and equally certain to fail.

The suicide rate in the Soviet Union is among the highest in the world, though all the organs of the state combine to pretend that it simply does not exist. The lesson appears not to have been learnt by *China' rulers*, so they will now have to learn it the hard way; crime in that country will not diminish merely because the newspapers are forbidden to mention it, nor will the incidence of corruption among Chinese officials or politicians be less because there is a general pretence that there isn't any.

Naturam expellas furca, tamen usque recurret. In Paradise, no doubt, nothing unpleasant ever happens. Here below, other standards obtain. When mosques or synagogues are built, a patch or a corner of the building is always left unfinished; perfection belongs only to Allah or Jehovah, and it is not for man to pretend to it. In China, however, though they do not believe they are already perfect, they believe that by telling each other that they are they will presently come to be. I never thought I would live to tell the Chinese, of all practical people, what Kipling told some of his contemporaries:

Here we sit in a branchy row.
Thinking of beautiful things we know;
Dreaming of deeds that we mean to do,
All complete, in a minute or two—
Something noble and grand and good,
Won by merely wishing we could.
Now we're going to—never mind.
Brother, thy tail hangs down behind!

LONDON DIARY

Where is that old spirit of fellowship?

The second scholarship to be given by the Airey Neave Memorial Trust, which perpetuates the memory of the former Northern Ireland Secretary killed by a terrorist bomb at Westminster, has been announced. It is for an international study into the freedom available in different countries for scientists to pursue their chosen subjects of research and teaching.

The award of £30,000 has been made to three diligent workers for the cause of human rights: Paul Sieghart, chairman of Justice and a governor of the British Institute of Human Rights; Dr John Humphrey, FRS, Professor of Immunology at London University; and Dr John Ziman, FRS, Professor of Physics at Bristol University.

They will appoint a researcher to examine the extent which scientists in the 35 signatory nations to the Helsinki accord of 1975 are free to proceed unhindered with their work. It is an issue on which Professor Ziman has tried, he feels unsuccessfully, to stir his colleagues at the Royal Society to protest at the treatment of fellow scientists in the Soviet Union and its satellites.

His appeal for a public voicing of disapproval when eminent Communist block scientists are known to have been dismissed from their posts, prevented from working or teaching, prohibited from travelling, and so forth, appears to have attracted little support.

It it perhaps not surprising, therefore, that the Royal Society has refused a request from Professor Ziman for help in providing accommodation for the researchers who will undertake the study. The Society is unwilling to become too involved with a project of such a patently political nature.

Yet it is worth recalling similar circumstances more than 40 years ago when prominent scientists in Britain gave their support to the Academic Assistance Council, which brought many eminent men to this country to escape Nazi tyranny in Europe.

That body is now the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning. And 45 of those scientists rescued by its predecessor are today Fellows of the Royal Society.

Centre aisle

Politician-watchers who are unable, or unwilling, to get up early enough to see the Gang-of-However-Many-It-Now-Is launch their new party at the Connaught Rooms at 8.45a.m. tomorrow are assured of another sighting of the stars of the social democratic firmament at Wadham College, Oxford, on Saturday afternoon.

Shirley, Bill, David and Roy will be gathered there to celebrate the wedding of Alec McGivan, secretary of the Council for Social Democracy.

"We fixed the date last November", McGivan told me yesterday, "thinking we would get it out of the way before the new party was launched: but events seem to have happened rather more quickly than we anticipated".

The rendezvous amid the dreaming spires is likely to be the first time that the members of the Gang will see each other after their high-speed dispersal round the country to attend provincial press conferences after tomorrow morning's launch.

McGivan, who was previously secretary of the Campaign for Labour Victory, and his bride, Miss Shirley Moyne, a social worker with the National Children's Home, have lost no time in showing their political loyalties. "We have already filled in our joint membership application for the Social Democratic Party in our married name", he told me.

Another export success for Britain. A Lincolnshire turkey company yesterday dispatched a consignment of 140,000 parson's noses, weighing 14 tons, to the Republic of Togo in West Africa, where they are considered a delicacy. "It takes a long time to collect a few tons; each turkey has only one", the firm's export manager explained.

Downbeat

Those MPs who use the underground passageway connecting the House with Westminster station and their Embankment offices have had the pleasure of being serenaded in recent days by a high class troupe of buskers, a trio of students playing chamber music.

When the Diary walked past, the flute, cello and viola were playing a Mozart sonatina. Between movements the minstrels explained that they would rather remain anonymous; their place of study might not be pleased if they were given any publicity. "It supplements our grants; they run out so quickly," explained the flute as coins rained from passers-by.



They did reveal that they had received much appreciation and encouragement from passing MPs, including several shadow ministers, which suggests to me that some of those MPs ought to be agitating for a change in the law to have buskers, who occupy all the best Underground passage sites, properly authorized.

In Paris, the whole thing is much better organized; a string quartet regularly and quite legally holds rehearsals on a station concourse to the delight of commuters.

London Transport tell me that busking in their stations is not quite a hanging offence, but it is a contravention of their bye-law no 22, part 1: "No person while upon the railway shall, to the annoyance of any other person, sing, perform on any musical or other instrument, or use any gramophone, record player, or portable wireless apparatus."

And if they can't catch them with that, there is always bye-law 22, part 3: "No person while upon the railway shall tout, ply for or solicit, alms or reward." Last year, LT said, they brought 80 prosecutions for busking.

This seems churlish, but LT insist that many passengers are annoyed or embarrassed by the strolling players, and besides they can cause congestion at busy times. Well, they have never annoyed or embarrassed me; I would either give each Tube station an Arts *Council grant or make London* Transport employ a band at every one.

Lagos lullaby

For a poet, President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria, just ending a visit to Britain, writes a dull book. But, as the President himself might observe in one of the well-tried maxims he is fond of employing, every cloud has a silver lining.

I therefore take pleasure in drawing *My Vision of Nigeria* to the attention of insomniac readers. For a mere £15 this volume, published to coincide with his visit, will provide hours of dreamless slumber.

The product has already undergone extensive somnolence testing in Nigeria (whose substantial print order will largely cover the production costs), being as it is an exhaustive collection of the President's speeches at sod-turnings, plant openings and official suppers during the past 18 months.

It is a troubled mind indeed which will not feel the touch of light-fingered Hypnos lowering the eyelids at such phrases as: "At this point I want to say a few words on revenue allocation."

President Shagari, who wears flowing robes and tinted glasses, cannot take a step without at least two dozen retainers *trailing in his wake*. But his courage is beyond question; not every politician would wish to see his speech at the opening of the new head office of the Agricultural and Cooperative Bank at Kaduna immortalized between hard covers.

Many of the speeches boil down to a series of homilies on civic responsibility of the sort that schoolmasters often inflict on their charges at prize-givings. Indeed Shagari, who is a much more intelligent and serious man than this book would suggest, was a teacher before his rise to eminence.

The poetic element of a typical presidential speech tends along the lines of waters flowing under the bridge, national cakes that must be baked before they can be shared, and such like. But, as Shagari fans like to say, maybe it reads better in Hausa. As indeed would some of the efforts of our own Westminster orators.

Adjoining newsbills seen in Bolton the other day: "£1 million warehouse blaze" and "Wanderers manager under fire". I hope for his sake they beat Preston North End tonight.

Alan Hamilton

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
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THIS CONTRACT IS TWO-SIDED

The Civil Service dispute is inflicting increasing disruption upon the country. Even by obstructing the payment of taxes, which may not seem the greatest privation to impose upon a battered nation, the civil servants will be forcing the Government to borrow at high rates of interest which will have to be paid for later by the taxpayers. The growing sense of public resentment is therefore entirely justified. The civil servants are behaving in a manner that takes no account of the public good and belies their *special responsibility* and status.

But what can be done about them? The Government must certainly stick to its determination not to give anything more *than* the 7 per cent pay increase it has offered. But a war of attrition is insufficient recognition of the public mood and is not a very satisfactory way to *conduct* an economy at any time. It is not possible to force the *issue by sacking individuals who* walk out and walk back, irritating though such behaviour is; they would be able to bring a suit against the Government before an *industrial* tribunal because in this indulgent age they would not technically have broken their contract of employment. But there is another contract they are breaking; beyond their legal terms and conditions of employment there is an implied equitable contract with the public. Civil servants fulfil special obligations to the public. In return the public affords them special advantages. Most prominent among these are greater security of employment and index-linked pensions.

Since the Conservative Government came to power the Civil Service has been reduced by some 5 per cent which is less *than half the fall in employment* in manufacturing. The Civil Service unions should value this more than they do; but there is little play for initiative here: the effort to reduce numbers must continue but there is always likely to be greater security of employment in the public service. It is the index-linked pensions which are the proper subject for review (not existing pensioners but those walking out today). It is tempting but would be impractical, to say that by acting in such an irresponsible fashion they have forfeited the right to have their pensions cushioned against inflation. But it is not only civil servants who receive index-linked pensions under the terms of the *Pensions (Increase) Act* of 1971. Police and firemen, teachers, health service staff and local authority employees all do so as well. If the Government were now to abrogate index-linked pensions for civil servants *in* response to their current behaviour it would be setting itself some delicate problems for the future. Either it would have to introduce amending legislation in Parliament every time any one *of these groups took industrial action, or it would find itself in* the invidious position of having to decide each time whether the action was serious enough to warrant removing the right to the pension being indexed. That would be a pretty sure path to absurdity.

But the same objection would not apply to a systematic review of index-linking. This is what is suggested in a letter on this page today *from two Conservative* MPs, Mr Chris Patten and Mr William Waldegrave. Their proposal is that index-linking might be confined to those groups who would be prepared to forgo the right to strike. In other words, part of what we would regard as the implicit contract should be made explicit.

At the moment, only the police, the armed forces and at certain times the merchant navy are legally forbidden to strike. So too were the gas, electricity and water workers until the Industrial Relations Act of 1971. When that Act was repealed, the legal restriction was not re-imposed upon them, but it would be in the national interest if more public sector unions were to accept such an obligation as part of a new bargain.

It will be objected that the Government would have no moral right to present them with such a choice which would involve arbitrarily changing their existing terms of employment. But the value of those terms has already been changed in their favour by the rate of inflation over the past seven years. The value of an index-linked pension is now vastly greater, both psychologically and practically, than it was when the right was conferred by the Pensions (Increase) Act of 1971. The idea then was not that this was *a free bonus to public sector employees*: the value of this concession was to be taken into account in future pay settlements. But with an unpredictable rate of inflation it is impossible to put any accurate value on an index-linked pension. As the Scott Inquiry made clear in its report last month, any assessment must be based upon a guess as to the future rate of inflation. In this sense, an index-linked *pension is strictly priceless.*

As it has been found impossible to put a financial value on such a pension, there would be no injustice in requiring a price of a different nature to be paid for such an immense asset in an inflationary age. Indeed, such an arrangement would be far more equitable than the existing division between those eligible for pensions in the private and public sectors—always providing that nobody already receiving an inflation-linked pension in his retirement should be deprived of it.

If any group of employees were to give up the right to *strike it would want to know how* its pay was to be determined in the future. It would be unwise to return to the recently discarded system of camparability. On this we would differ from Mr Patten and Mr Waldegrave. That would simply pave the way to further inflationary settlements. To a large extent it ought to be possible to rely on market forces. If the number or quality of recruits went down then pay would have to go up. But this principle might if necessary be supplemented by a process of arbitration.

A new social compact of this nature might not be to the liking of the public sector unions. But it would offer greater safeguards for the community than the existing arrangements, fairer rewards between one group of employees and another, and a surer measure of public equity.

A WASTED OPPORTUNITY

The European Community's summit conference has apparently *avoided a major crisis over* fisheries, in spite of some sharp words from Herr Schmidt. All concerned have expressed a willingness to find a solution, and a meeting of fisheries *ministers is to be held on Friday.* That is good news certainly, but it does not dispel the impression that the Maastricht summit was a rather insubstantial affair, which barely touched on the big issues of the day. It is, after all, a time of worldwide economic recession, which has had serious effects in Europe. President Reagan has now taken office in Washington and his policies, which on the face of things represent a considerable change from those of the Carter Administration, have begun to take shape. There is continuing uncertainty about the intentions of the Soviet Union, in Poland and elsewhere. *One might* have expected deeper consideration of some of these issues by the leaders of ten influential countries which have aspirations to a role in world affairs.

As it was, the meeting gave the impression that the main participants had their minds elsewhere, rather than on Community affairs whether external or internal. Herr Schmidt is facing political and economic difficulties at home: there is *increased* disenchantment in West Germany with the way that the Community works, and he apparently felt that he had to raise his voice on the fisheries issue in order to respond to that. President *Giscard* d'Estaing has an even more immediate preoccupation in the forthcoming election in France, to be held on April 26 and May 10; he is no longer the clear favourite that he was some months ago. Mrs Thatcher is also on the defensive over her economic policies. So the meeting was held, as the European calendar requires, but without any great determination to make much of it.

One of the main topics, understandably enough, was the economic and social situation in the Community. But the meeting had time for little more than an outline of the policies being followed in the *different countries*, and for the comforting observation at the end that in many areas—such as the pursuit of a prudent monetary policy and the avoidance of excessively high *public expenditure*—these policies converged. Later, over dinner on Monday, there was discussion of foreign policy issues—particularly Poland, where Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, has recently paid a visit. *There was discussion* of the Poles' need for food and financial aid, and that is to be taken further. At the end of the meeting, statements were issued on Afghanistan and the Middle East, but they did not take Community policy beyond what has been said before.

Community summits should not be regarded as occasions at which decisions or initiatives have necessarily to be taken. When they were first introduced the intention was that they should be the occasion for reflection on the broad issues of the day. In practice they have often tended to be used as a sort of court of last appeal for issues that could not be resolved at the Council of Ministers. This was true of discussions of Britain's budget contributions, which took up a great deal of time at earlier summits; and it was true at Maastricht of *the fisheries issue, which Herr* Schmidt wanted to raise at summit level because of his frustration at the failure at lower levels.

What was disconcerting about *the Maastricht meeting was* that, with their minds elsewhere, the participants did not use their time for getting to grips with major questions facing the Community. There is the question of the proper level of agricultural prices; and, linked with it, the future of the common agricultural policy and the restructuring of budget expenditure. The Commission has to make proposals on the budget question *by June; governments should* also be preparing the ground if progress is to be made. The Maastricht meeting was a wasted opportunity. If joint European policies are to be effectively *developed, more advance thought* needs to be given to them and, for the sake of public opinion, be seen to be given.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Feminine revolt against 'unisex'

From Mrs Joanna Bogle and others

Sir, We are women with ages ranging from the twenties to the eighties and occupations ranging over music, medicine, nursing, publishing, school governing, university teaching, journalism, physics, geology, to the all important job of motherhood, but in one particular we are unanimous—we should like to see the abolition of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

In pursuing our various careers we have never felt the need for any such organization as this expensive quango, and now that we have it, judge it to be counterproductive, increasing animosities at a time when job opportunities for both sexes are diminishing. We believe that the best contribution to equity (as distinct from numerical equality) is the demonstration of our own natural talents. That each sex has its own natural talents, *albeit with much overlap and many* exceptions, we are convinced, and the cult of unisex, fostered by the EOC, merely impoverishes both sexes.

From the proliferation of "free" but lavish EOC literature we learn that conditioning for unisex should start early with "ending sex-stereotyping in schools". Female Red Indian chiefs are advocated (although historically inaccurate) and wall friezes of "parenting" activities should show men feeding the baby (bottle of course, unisex cannot deliver the top-grade article). If on this scholastic diet literacy is achieved, why then we must change the language: use "firefighter" instead of "fireman", "synthetic" instead of "man-made". Laughable? Or frighteningly akin to lunacy?

Can such tactics do other than produce some very confused children, sadly devoid of humour? Further worries about the children are generated by the EOC's "Child care policy", which creates the impression that a takeover of all child care by the *state is the objective*: a nightmare given realism by the EOC's declared interest in bringing out of the home and into the job market even those women who have hitherto shown no such inclination.

"A surprising number of women *we talked to were not enthusiastic* about the aims of the EOC" (*EOC News*, October, 1979). Undeterred, the EOC's remedy for a "low-key interest in sex discrimination" in Wales is to open a branch office there to "give a lead in questioning *social attitudes*". *More recently*, just in case there is no real man available for job comparison, the EOC is pressing the Government to introduce "the concept of hypothetical man" into the Equal Pay Act (*EOC News*, March 19, 1981).

And the cost of all this? £1,644,810 in 1978-79, the last year for which we have figures (staff salaries and commissioners' fees and expenses £851,226). Grants given included one of £240,000 (over three years jointly with the Social Science Research Council) for research on "women and underachievement". Lesser grants were given "to identify ways in which Scottish secondary schools perpetuate and reinforce society's expectations of the sexes" (£4,500): "for the costs of organizing an award to expose through ridicule the misrepresentation of women in advertisements" (£350): "for the preparation of an authoritative framework of non-sexist words within the English language" (£1,500)—and many other, to us, mindless assaults on common sense.

We conclude with a complaint about the pejorative use of the word discrimination. Once it carried the hint of discernment of worth. Now this is not only unfashionable but illegal—perhaps lack of discrimination is one cause for our country's present troubles.

Yours, etc,
JOANNA BOGLE
MARGARET SIMPSON
RUTH GIPPS
MARJORIE MUDGE
MAVIS NOWERS
PAMELA GOSLING
LORAINE NACIOFF
URSULA NASH
GERTRUDE BANNISTER
PAMELA WEBB
MARGARET MAGNER
JULIA THOM
ALISON MARTIN
DIANA DUMMER
27 Red Post Hill,
Dulwich, SE24.

Justice in Civil Service pay

From Mr Chris Patten, MP for Bath (Conservative) and Mr William Waldegrave, MP for Bristol, West (Conservative)

Sir, The dispute between the Civil Service unions and the Government threatens to damage the conduct of the nation's affairs, the well being of many citizens and the high reputation of public service in this country. It is in everyone's interest that it should be settled as rapidly *as possible on terms which will* help to avoid a similar dispute in the future.

The main grievances of the Civil Service unions are that the Government wishes to contain this year's pay settlement within a 6 per cent cash limit, and that it has scrapped the machinery which has hitherto determined the correct level of Civil Service pay by reference to earnings in comparable occupations outside. Speculation about the likely government reaction to the Scott report on the inflation-proofing of public-service pensions has also deepened Civil Service anxieties.

So far as the pay settlement for this year is concerned, we do not believe that the Government has any room for manoeuvre, nor do we think that it should retreat from *its position that a seven per cent* pay settlement for civil servants is the most that can be squeezed out of the existing cash limits. To bypass the cash limits would involve raising taxes, cutting spending on programmes or increasing borrowing. There is broad agreement that we should be aiming in the future to increase capital spending in the public sector; this could only be achieved within a sensible strategy for public expenditure as a whole if current spending were tightly controlled. The private sector has borne the brunt of the recession in jobs lost and pay rises forgone; the Civil Service unions should not ignore this, nor the resentment which would be caused by giving them specially favoured status.

However, there is surely scope for the Government to respond more positively over the question of the future determination of Civil Service pay. The manifesto on which the Government was elected argued that we should aim to reconcile the system of cash limits with *traditional pay-bargaining procedures*. It is the failure to do that (for the second time in the last few years) which offends many moderate civil servants. The task is far from easy, since ability to pay is inevitably a constraint on any system of *independent arbitration. But the Government* should make it clear that it is prepared to discuss straight away the establishment of new machinery operating according to the following criteria, among others:

First, a new system of outside comparisons should be agreed for each Civil Service grade; second, *comparisons should*, so far as possible, be contemporaneous rather than retrospective, involving the conclusion of Civil Service pay settlements within the same pay round as those of comparable outside groups; third, market principles should be introduced wherever practicable; fourth, a common research facility for all pay bargaining in the public sector should be established to ensure that the same broad principles underpin the settlements reached with every group of state employees.

The Government should also be prepared to discuss the possibility of giving statutory backing and force to a new arbitration procedure in return for "no-strike" agreements. The objective should be that an inner core of essential public *servants should achieve a position* where their guaranteed service to the state is matched by the guarantees the state gives them on pay and, perhaps, on the real value of their pensions. A package made up of arbitrated pay, indexed pensions and "no-strike" agreements could then be offered to others, further from the centre of the public sector, some of whom might find it attractive.

Any sensible government must have an explicit policy for the payment of its employees. If the Government *will* now make clear the outlines of its policy for the future, and its commitment to a fair and permanent method for public sector pay determination, we believe that many—and we would hope the majority—of those civil servants at present *taking industrial action will* return to normal working for good. Should they fail to do so, this could only do lasting damage to the traditions of a service of which in the past the whole country has been rightly proud.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS PATTEN,
WILLIAM WALDEGRAVE,
House of Commons.
March 23.

From Wing Commander S. John Peskett

Sir, In the variety of sudden strikes in the Civil Service, when can we expect one in the department which pays the salaries of the Civil Service?

Yours faithfully,
S. JOHN PESKETT,
75 Mount Ephraim,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.

Squaring accounts with Albania

From the Reverend Michael Bourdeaux

Sir, I read with interest the appeal *(March 14) from a group of MPs* for better relations with Albania and your subsequent editorial (March 19). Certainly the time has come for the British Government to attempt to establish full relations with Albania. But in doing so, those who negotiate will wish to bear in mind current injustice in Albania, rather than anyone's sins of the past.

Albania is, since the recent change of policy in China, the only country in the world where religion is totally outlawed in any form. *Until* this policy is changed the Albanian Government could hardly expect to be readmitted into the fellowship of civilized nations.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BOURDEAUX, Director,
Keston College,
Heathfield Road,
Keston,
Kent.
March 19.

From Mr Simon Henderson

Sir, With reference to your editorial (March 19) concerning our diplomatic relations with Albania (or rather the lack of them) I feel that it should be pointed out that neither of the two Royal Navy destroyers mined in the Corfu channel on October 22, 1946, was sunk.

After being seriously damaged by an explosion at 2.53 that afternoon HMS Saumarez (36 of whose crew were tragically killed or presumed killed by the explosion or resulting fire) was taken in tow by HMS Volage, which in turn was *stricken at about 4.30 pm when* her bows were blown off with the further loss of eight men. The tow was, however, reestablished by excellent ship-handling, and with the help of other vessels, notably Raider Ocean, Mauritius and Leander, both vessels eventually reached Malta.

HMS Saumarez was broken up at Rosyth in 1950, but HMS Volage continued a distinguished career, was converted to an anti-submarine frigate and for a sunken vessel was very much in evidence on visits to Amsterdam in June, 1954, and St Jean de Luz in June, 1955. She was turned over as a harbour training ship for the Royal Marines at Portsmouth in 1966.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON HENDERSON,
21b Ailsa Road,
St Margarets-on-Thames,
Twickenham.
March 19.

Medical schools threat

From Mr David Ennals, MP for Norwich, North (Labour)

Sir, Your readers may be forgiven for becoming weary with the debate on the future of London medical schools, but the education of almost one third of the country's doctors must be a matter of continuing public concern.

The latest plan from the University of London (your report of March 19) proposes the establishment of *four large consortia*, complete with the now familiar schemes of management and administration, and follows the dubious policy put forward by the Flowers report of creating fewer and larger schools. This plan will involve the dismemberment or closure of at least three medical schools; the London, St Mary's and Westminster.

Of course the plan will be resisted by the schools themselves; but there is more to it than that. It should not be forgotten that the policy of creating large schools has been roundly condemned by informed opinion in this country and abroad. The Conference of Provincial Deans (who have experience of creating large schools), and the royal colleges are among those who have expressed considerable fears that large schools lead to declining standards.

What reasons do the University of London offer for ignoring this opinion? Simply this: that large *schools will be better able to with*stand the cuts and be more robust in terms of teaching and research. No one doubts that the university is obliged to make savings and make them now. The question is whether the university plans will achieve this.

The university's working party on medical costs shows that in 1978-79 the costs of complete training for a doctor were as follows: St George's, £33,247; Charing Cross, £25,703; St Mary's £23,094; The London, £20,052; Westminster *(with pre-clinical at King's College)*, £19,196.

Yet it is now proposed that the student members at St George's and Charing Cross be increased and those at St Mary's, the London and Westminster reduced. Can it really make sense to close or disrupt schools who have shown themselves to be cost-effective and academically excellent?

Surely the most prudent course for the Senate on Wednesday is to reaffirm their decision of last autumn, and to carry out an adjustment of staff-student ratios leaving it to the schools themselves—working together where appropriate—to work out which changes they might best make to minimize the effect on academic standards? To take precipitate decisions this week on a set of proposals only just published cannot be sensible.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ENNALS,
House of Commons.

The written heritage

From Lord Kenyon

Sir, The Friends of the National Libraries were founded 50 years ago this year. It was the intention that the society should give to the nation's libraries and record offices the same kind of help which museums and art galleries received from the National Art Collections Fund. A letter in these columns helped launch it, and you yourself endorsed its aims in a powerful leading article. It is appropriate, therefore, that I should beg the courtesy of these same columns to draw the attention of your readers to the work of the Friends and to the appeal which has been opened in this jubilee year.

The society has been guided all along by two principles: the first that collections should, at all costs, be kept together; the other that items should find appropriate homes. The Friends have given effect to these purposes by making grants towards purchase, by eliciting and channelling benefactions, and by organizing appeals and publicity. In these ways, over the past 50 years, the Friends have helped more than 250 institutions, great and small, up and down the country, to acquire thousands of *books and manuscripts.*

I need hardly say that their work is becoming more difficult. Prices are *rising steeply. If the Friends* are to continue to be effective they must increase their resources and enlarge their membership. An *appeal fund has been opened. May* I urge your readers to support their work by making donations to it? But, more important, may I implore them to show their intention of continuing support for the society by taking out subscriptions?

Donations to the golden jubilee appeal fund should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Friends of the National Libraries, The British Library, Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3DG. He will gladly answer any questions about membership.

Much has been achieved; there is more still to do.

Yours faithfully,
KENYON, Chairman,
Friends of the National Libraries,
c/o The British Library,
Great Russell Street, WC1.
March 19.

Radioactive waste

From Sir Kelvin Spencer

Sir, Miss Marion Hill (March 17) replying to Professor Hinde's letter (March 13) states that the National Radiological Protection Board Report 108 on disposal of radioactive waste says that "there is insufficient information at present to decide which of the options under consideration is the most acceptable". The point at issue, however, is whether any method is, or ever will be, acceptable. For safe storage there must be no possibility of leakage for many thousands of years. This implies two requirements.

First, encasement in material with proven durability, under conditions of irradiation that would apply, for the necessary period. It would be interesting to know pre*cisely what progress has been made* in finding such a substance and how its durability has been assessed.

Second, a site where it could be guaranteed to be free from geological forces or human interference must be available. It would seem *from this report of the National* Radiological Protection Board that no such site is ever likely to be found.

Yours faithfully,
KELVIN SPENCER,
Wootans,
Branscombe,
Seaton,
Devon.

Studying government

From the Chairman of the Council, Royal Institute of Public Administration

Sir, The report by Mr Peter Hennessy (March 19) refers to the research work being done under the auspices of the Royal Institute of Public Administration on government policy initiatives.

The council of the institute does not seek to control in detail the research work undertaken by, or sponsored by, the institute, but it is concerned to ensure that all the institute's activities are related to its main objective, which is the study and improvement of public administration.

The title of the project is "The administration of government policy *initiatives*". The council was naturally aware of this project and endorsed it on the understanding that its objectives were to study the *process of implementing those* initiatives and its relationship to the machinery of government and administration. This falls within one of the institute's traditional areas of interest and the council made it clear that the work would not be *concerned with the political impli*cations or merits of those policies.

The director general has confirmed that those still are the objectives of the project and that those concerned with the work also understand that the institute cannot *engage* in matters of political controversy. That is certainly not the purpose either of this research project or of the institute's conference at the University of Sussex next month.

Yours faithfully,
F. A. STONE,
Royal Institute of Public Administration,
3 Birdcage Walk, SW1.

The Hayman case

From Mr Peter Birts

Sir, Not the least disquieting aspect of the Sir Peter Hayman case is the constitutional position which arises from the tabling of the parliamentary questions.

Insofar as the decision not to prosecute rested on the consideration that the bringing of proceedings would alone (because of the attendant publicity) inflict punishment disproportionately harsh to the gravity of the offence and to any penalty that a court might impose in the event of a conviction, such decision—taken by the Director of Public Prosecutions and supported by the Attorney General—has been reversed; the punishment is now being inflicted in as great (if not greater) a measure as if there had been proceedings in the first place.

The DPP (a quasi-judicial officer whose main function, founded on specific professional experience, is to decide whether or not to prosecute in a given case) is accountable to the Attorney General; the Attorney General (the senior law officer in the Government) is accountable to Parliament. A member of Parliament (who may have *no legal* training and no relevant experience) is accountable only to his constituents. Can it be right that by the simple expedient of a parliamentary question he can effectively reverse the considered decision of the DPP and the *Attorney General and bring about* the very result which both had rejected as being unjust to the individual and not in the public interest?

Yours faithfully,
PETER BIRTS,
Farrar's Building, Temple, EC4.

From Mr S. C. Enderby

Sir, Thomas Jefferson once made the following remark to Baron Humboldt: "When a man assumes public trust he should consider himself public property".

Would it not be provident for every man of importance in public life today to have this engraved on his shaving mirror?

Yours faithfully,
S. C. ENDERBY,
The Dairy House,
West Stafford,
Dorchester.

Pass with honours

From Mr Michael Nightingale

Sir, Your leading article on March 21 refers to the plan to replace passports with a wholly redesigned version in a standard European Community form.

The debasement of the British passport started many years ago, *not least with the removal in the* 1950s from the "pass freely" rubric of the personal name, titles, coat of arms and signature of her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State.

Looking back on a pile of old family passports I found Curzon of Kedleston, John Simon, Halifax, Anthony Eden all very resplendent and finally Ernest Bevin with no heraldic insignia but still rather grand as a member of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

If we must move towards the anonymity of the computer, let us once again have the comfort of a personal name on the rubric. I should feel proud to carry the arms and signature of Carrington on my *new European passport.*

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NIGHTINGALE,
Wormshill Court,
Sittingbourne, Kent.

Togetherness

From Mrs Alex Scott

Sir, Between them my sons have almost six weeks' holidays this Easter, only two of which coincide.

Would it be so authoritarian for the Government to recommend weeks for school terms to end and begin? Schools would not have to comply, but they might have to convince parents they had good reason to differ.

Yours faithfully,
ALEX SCOTT,
Malt Cottage,
Lamb Corner,
Dedham, Nr Colchester,
Essex.

University admissions

From the Headmaster of Repton School

Sir, The Cambridge proposal for a summer entrance examination merits serious consideration. The *disadvantages* of the present system are plain to see. Candidates from maintained schools are felt to be at a disadvantage by having to sit the entrance examination in the autumn term before A levels. There is a good deal of evidence to *show that* a candidate's performance in the pre-A level entrance examination provides a much more haphazard prognostic of eventual university success than do A level grades.

Candidates from independent schools who fail *to* achieve admission through the post-A level entrance examination, and many deserving candidates do fail, selection procedures being not infallible, will have spent an unnecessary extra term at school and will have been prevented from going up *to* the university until the following October, beneficial though that extra year may be in some cases.

As the cost of independent education increases steadily, so I believe will the numbers of post-A level candidates decrease steadily; and who can blame parents for succumbing to such economic pressures? The quality of education which post-A level candidates receive in the extra term, and which *they rightly value, can* be spread throughout the A-level year and maintained schools would be in a similar position to independent schools in providing this.

The S-level papers were originally *designed for use as part of the* university selection procedure and the proposal that, in future, all candidates should take an examination of no more than two papers on a single day towards the end of the summer term, avoiding clashes with A-level examinations, seems to me to be an eminently sensible one and one which deserves strong support.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID JEWELL,
Repton School,
The Hall,
Repton,
Derby.
March 5.

Tunnicliffe collection

From Mr Ian Prestt

Sir, I fully share Mr Summerson's wish (March 20) that individuals may acquire examples of Charles Tunnicliffe's work for themselves for their enjoyment. Tunnicliffe himself would have applauded this remark. I can well recall him explaining to me at one stage why he had decided to produce medium-sized water colours at a reasonable price which would fit easily into *the living room* of a modern house—he wanted his work to be enjoyed by as many people as possible.

What we want to preserve is his working material—field sketches and measured drawings. It was from this reference material that his pictures were created. *He produced* these for his own benefit and did not sell them or give them away and it was always his intention that these should be kept together.

Our purpose in trying to do this is, first, to support his own wishes and secondly because by keeping them together we will provide an interesting illustration of how Tunnicliffe worked and how a large number of his paintings were created.

Yours faithfully,
IAN PRESTT, Director,
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
The Lodge,
Sandy, Bedfordshire.
March 23.

Population surveys

From Lord Young of Dartington

Sir, According to reports, Sir Derek Rayner has been at it again—this time to suggest cuts in the surveys done by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

I greatly hope he and the Government will have second thoughts. It would be unpardonable if the *Government now stopped ever wanting* to know about the welfare of its citizens. To cut down on the survey work would mean that some vital facts about the national life would not ever be collected. Also, the collection of these facts needs to be continuous so that comparisons can be made between one period and another.

The Government, if it takes Sir Derek's advice, will be digging a hole in the stock of national information which can never again be filled.

Yours faithfully,
YOUNG OF DARTINGTON,
House of Lords.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 24: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

Captain Lalbahadur Rai and Captain Balbahadur Gurung (The Queen's Gurkha Orderly Officers) had the honour of being received by Her Majesty when The Queen invested them with the Insignia of Members of the Royal Victorian Order (Fifth Class).

Lady Abel Smith has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother honoured Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Hill-Norton and former Captains of HMS Ark Royal with her presence at dinner in Admiralty House this evening.

The Lady Jean Rankin and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

The Lady Jean Rankin has succeeded Ruth, Lady Fermoy as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of The Dockland Settlements, this evening attended the Settlements' Annual Dinner at the Glaziers Hall, London Bridge.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 24: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, The East Africa Women's League, attended the Annual General Meeting at Holy Trinity Church House, Brompton Road, this afternoon.

Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, The Kensington Society, planted a tree this morning in Kensington Gardens, in memory of their late Patron, Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 24: The Duke of Kent today attended the Institute of Directors' Annual Convention at the Royal Albert Hall.

Lieutenant Commander Richard Buckley, RN, was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the British Epilepsy Association, today visited the David Lewis Centre in Cheshire.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Carola Godman Irvine.

The Duchess of Kent will be present at a service of thanksgiving and rededication to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Greater London Fund for the Blind in Westminster Abbey on Thursday, May 28.

Birthdays today

Dame Bridget D'Oyly Carte, 73; Lord Hemingford, 77; Mr David Hicks, 52; Professor Sir Norman Jeffcoate, 74; Lord Jessel, 77; Major-General S. W. Joslin, 82; Sir Geoffrey Keynes, 94; Mr David Lean, 73; Sir Bernard Miller, 77; Sir Kenneth Peppiatt, 88; Sir George Pope, 79; Mr A. J. P. Taylor, 75; Mr Peter Walker, MP, 49; Sir Owen Wansbrough-Jones, 76.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net before tax paid):

Atkins, Mr Arthur William, of Hilton, Derbyshire, intestate .. £129,988

Barnes, Mr John, of Wigton, Cumbria, yeoman £223,516

Bowen, Mr Edmund John, FRS, of Oxford £162,364

Bryce, Mrs Patrica Irvine, of Cawood, North Yorks. £172,074

Chappell, Mr Edward Augustus, of Ware, Herts. £193,811

Clarke, Mrs Louise Elizabeth Daphne, of Hove, East Sussex £155,611

Danson, Mrs Eileen Mary, of Ingatestone, Essex .. £196,575

Dickens, Mrs Gwendoline Robinson, of Northampton .. £161,531

Godman, Mr Richard Arthur, of Watford, Herts, solicitor £141,988

Green, Mrs Gladys, of Wakefield, West Yorks. .. £485,191

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Crooks and Mlle I. Musnik
The engagement is announced between Samuel, only son of the Very Rev the Dean of Belfast, and Mrs S. B. Crooks, and Isabelle, only daughter of M and Mme Georges Musnik, of rue Frédéric-Lemaître, Paris.

Mr P. J. M. Clarke and Miss D. A. Bazalgette
The engagement is announced between Peter John Michael, younger son of Mr E. J. W. Clarke, of Marksbury Avenue, Richmond, Surrey, and the late Mrs Clarke, and Deborah Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. P. Bazalgette, of Cloud End, Aldington, near Ashford, Kent.

Mr C. B. Dowling and Miss S. F. Marques
The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mr and Mrs Bruce Dowling, of 32 Lancaster Road, Wimbledon, SW19, and Shelley, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Marques, of Culverwood House, Little Berkhamstead, nr. Hertford.

Mr P. Kelly and Miss C. Wignall
The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Mr and Mrs George Kelly, of Hove, and Carol, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Johnson, of Selby, Yorkshire.

Mr M. McInnes Skinner and Miss J. C. Watson
The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Mr and Mrs Desmond McInnes Skinner, of North Farm, Snetterton, Norfolk, and Jane Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Watson, of Gladwins Farm, Little Horkesley, Colchester, Essex.

Mr R. H. T. Smith and Miss S. E. Farrant
The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr and Mrs R. C. Smith, of Adel, Leeds, and Susan, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs P. C. Farrant, of Sidcup, Kent.

Mr C. R. G. Spiller and Miss F. J. D. Parsonage
The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Major and Mrs R. L. Spiller, of Church Farm House, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, and Fiona, daughter of Dr and Mrs M. J. Parsonage, of 62 Kent Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Marriage

Mr D. N. Hinckley and Tracey Lady Power
The marriage took place in London on March 24 between Mr Douglas Hinckley, of Wiseton, Doncaster, and Tracey Lady Power, of Amberley, Sussex.

Suffragan Bishop of Hull appointed

The Ven D. G. Snelgrove, Archdeacon of the East Riding and Canon and Prebendary of York Minster, has been appointed Suffragan Bishop of Hull.

Watercolour landscape fetches double its estimate

A prized Palmer soars to £70,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A watercolour landscape of Samuel Palmer's much-prized Shoreham period was sold at Christie's yesterday for £70,000 (estimate £30,000 to £40,000). The highest price previously recorded at auction for a work by Palmer was a mere £18,000 in 1976. The drawing was bought by Baskett and Day, the leading London dealers.

The landscape depicted is "Ightham Mote: the harvesters hurrying away the last of the harvest". It is believed to date from 1830 and is so inscribed by the artist's son on the back: "The reflection of the incendiary fires in Kent . . . about 1830, done I think the next day".

He is referring to the fires lit by Luddite arsonists protesting against the mechanization of farming; a rich mauve cloud of smoke floats across the summer landscape. Palmer was deeply concerned about these issues, passionately deploring the devastation of the countryside by the industrial age.

A high price had been expected in this case in view of the rarity of the work. The £13,000 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000), on the other hand, paid by Spink's for Peter de Wint's "Haymaking in the fields near Lincoln" came as a surprise to the auctioneers; foxing, which can be remedied, had reduced their expectations.

A group of watercolours by Bonington and his "followers", Shotter Boys and Callow, made notably high prices: Bonington's "Fisherfolk on a beach" made £6,500 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000), a tiny Shotter Boys (3¼in by 5¼in) of "A wherry passing a coastal village" £5,500 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000) and an early, foxed and faded, "View of the Grand Canal, Venice" by William Callow £4,000 (estimate £2,500 to £3,500).

The sale turned out with a total of £249,430 and 10 per cent unsold. Most of that percentage was accounted for by a single expensive failure. A Turner view of "Bodiam Castle, Sussex", datable to 1812-16 and executed as the basis for an engraving, had been estimated to fetch £20,000 to £30,000; it was bought in at £16,000. It is one of a series of Sussex views, none of which has survived in the best of condition.

After their sale of top quality Victorian pictures on Monday night, Sotheby's Belgravia yesterday offered 275 lesser works of the same era for sale. The result, with 23 per cent of the £347,310 total unsold, underlines the fact that the most intense demand in today's market is for the best, not the second best.

The top price was £7,200 (estimate £4,000 to £8,000) for a pleasant landscape by Henry John Boddington, "The Lock-fisher's cottage".

An unusually good sale of patchwork and other quilts at Christie's, South Kensington, yesterday attracted a strong contingent of private collectors, as well as many overseas buyers.

An American quilt worked with 38 different appliqué and embroidered squares and inscribed, "Presented to the Rev Mrs W. D. Thompson by the sisters of the NE Church of West Farms Westchester Co NY March 18 1869—H. Parmelee", brought the top price at £600 (estimate £225 to £250).

Photograph by Brian Harris

Black fashions: Models preparing for a preview yesterday of the first fashion show in Britain for black designers. The clothing styles, for men and women, will be shown to the public in the Commonwealth Institute in Kensington, London, on April 4.

Luncheons

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a farewell luncheon held in honour of the Moroccan Ambassador at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday.

HM Government
Mr Richard Luce, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a farewell luncheon held in honour of the Malawian High Commissioner at Lancaster House yesterday.

Association of Certified Accountants
The President of the Association of Certified Accountants, Miss Vera Di Palma, gave a luncheon party at 29 Lincoln's Inn Fields yesterday in honour of the High Commissioner for Singapore, Mr Jek Yeun Thong. Among those present were:
Mr R. P. Crout, Mr N. K. Grant, Mrs V. V. H. Harris, Mr P. T. Hobkinson, Mr D. H. J. Lester, Professor J. R. Small and Mr R. A. Spencer.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
Mr J. N. C. James, President, and members of the general council of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors were hosts at a luncheon held at 12 Great George Street yesterday. The guests were:
Lord Kindersley, Mr John Ward, MP, Mr Hugh Cubitt, Miss Audrey Lees, Mr Geoffrey Rogers and Mr Donald Trelford.

Lady Mayoress of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were hosts at a luncheon party at City Hall yesterday to mark the retirement of the Bishop of London and to celebrate the eightieth birthday (February 24) of Lord Clitheroe. The guests were:
Mrs Ellison, Lady Clitheroe, the Provost of Blackburn and Mrs Jackson, the Dean of Westminster and Mrs Carpenter, [illegible] Mr and Mrs David Wills and Mr J. A. Clewley.

Dinners

GLC
The chairman of the GLC and Mrs Brook-Partridge entertained the following guests at dinner after a concert at the Festival Hall yesterday evening:
The Minister for the Arts and Mrs Paul Channon, the leader of Peterborough City Council and Mrs Charles Swift and Mr and Mrs Frederick W. Weyer.

Construction Health and Safety Group
The Construction Health and Safety Group held their annual dinner at the Cumberland Hotel yesterday. Mr A. J. Morris, group chairman, presided and Dr K. P. Duncan, director of the Medical Services, Health and Safety Executive, was the principal guest.

Institution of Public Health Engineers
The annual London dinner of the Institution of Public Health Engineers was held at the Hilton hotel on Friday, March 20. Mr Edward Flaxman, president, was in the chair and the principal guest was Dr Donald Mackay, Deputy Director of the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene. Also present were Sir Robert Marshall, Chairman of the National Water Council, and Mr Peter Cox, President of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Michael Marshall, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, was host at a reception held at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of delegates attending the symposium on the use of chemical nomenclature.

Service dinner

Royal Marines
Admiral Sir James Eberle, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, was guest of honour at a dinner held last night in the Officers' Mess, Royal Marines, Poole. The other guests were Major-General A. C. S. Boswell, Colonel of the Regiment, The Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, Major-General W. N. J. Withall, Director Army Air Corps, and Commodore C. J. Isacke, Commodore Amphibious Warfare. The Commandant General, Lieutenant-General Sir John Richards, presided.

Photography honour for a doctor

By Our Arts Reporter

A pioneer of medical photography is honoured today by the Royal Photographic Society in their awards list for 1980.

Dr Peter Hansell, director of the department of photography at Westminster Hospital medical school, receives the Rodman Medal for his contributions, particularly his work in ophthalmic photography. He was one of the first qualified doctors to study medical photography more than a quarter of a century ago.

Mr Harold Evans, editor of *The Times* and formerly editor of *The Sunday Times*, receives the Hood Medal for his contributions to photo-journalism, and through newspapers and television, to a greater public awareness and appreciation of photography.

Other awards:
Henderson Medal, Dr G. C. Farnell; Williamson Research Award, Dr R. Marshall; honorary fellowships, Mr J. Coote, Mr W. Nurnberg, Mr H. Rirkeits, Mr P. Smethurst, and Mr D. Young. Fenton Medals, Mr R. Boyes, joint honorary solicitor of the RPS, and Mr K. Warr, the society's secretary.

Shrewsbury School

The following awards have been made:
Butler Scholarship: A. N. Graham, Edge Grove, Aldenham, Hertfordshire. Kennedy Scholarships: J. T. C. Lord, Bramcote School, Scarborough, Yorkshire; R. A. Potts, New College School, Oxford.
Moss Scholarships: W. J. G. Barber, Shrewsbury School and Prestfelde, Shrewsbury; A. J. R. Hargreaves, Stancliffe Hall, Darley Dale, Derbyshire; P. Kenyon, Pownall Hall, Wilmslow, Cheshire; J. E. Nugent, The Priory School, Shrewsbury; I. R. Stanley, The Priory School, Shrewsbury.
Alington Exhibitions: D. E. Brown, Yarlet Hall, Stafford; J. R. T. Griffiths, Kingsland Grange, Shrewsbury; J. G. Hill, Shrewsbury School and Beech Hall, Macclesfield, Cheshire; D. H. Small, Kingsland Grange, Shrewsbury; M. St J. Wilson, The Chorister School, Durham.
First Music Scholarship: A. H. J. Hodgson, St Chad's, Lichfield, Staffordshire.
Second Music Scholarship: A. R. Lind, Terra Nova, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire.

Eton College

Lent half at Eton College ends today. The Newcastle scholarship for divinity has been awarded to K. K. Nath, KS, the Newcastle medallist is G. T. S. Davson, KS, the Wilder Prize has been awarded to T. J. E. Brereton, KS, and the Keynes Prize for economics to M. J. P. Southwell.

The Queen's prize for French has been awarded to M. J. P. Southwell and for German to J. Hall, KS. In the final of the house football Mr J. S. B. Peake's defeated Mr J. G. L. Nichols's by 5 points to 3. Mr J. S. B. Peake's won the athletics cup. Summer half begins on April 22.

Science report

Climate: Whence carbon dioxide?

By the Staff of Nature

The concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is increasing. On that scientists are agreed (if not on the effects the increase will have). But what is the origin of the extra carbon dioxide? Does it come from a century or two of coal and oil-burning? Or does it come mostly from the massive deforestation that has taken place in many countries, such as Brazil?

If carbon dioxide production is to be controlled, it is important to know what to control. The only way to distinguish the sources, it seemed, was to look at subtle differences in the nature of carbon from them (precisely, at the isotope composition of the carbon) and detect the changing balance of those differences in the air. But now measurements on seven Tasmanian trees one 900 years old have thrown all in doubt.

Tree rings are very useful to climatologists. They fix in time the composition of the air, from which their carbon is derived. That carbon comes in three important atomic forms, or isotopes: carbon-12, the dominant, stable form; carbon-13, also stable, but forming only about 1 per cent of natural carbon; and carbon-14, unstable and formed by cosmic ray bombardment in the upper atmosphere. In a fixed sample, as in coal or oil, half the carbon-14 decays every 5,570 years, fast enough that fossil fuels now contain none.

Recent tree rings (recent, that is, compared with 5,570 years) show the same isotopic composition as the air, with one slight difference. The different masses of the isotopes, and the complicated chemistry by which they arrive at their final sites, results in the amount of fixed carbon-13 being slightly less than in the air, by about 20 parts per 1,000. Carbon-13 does not decay, so the effect is also passed on to coal and oil, which have an organic origin.

Thus burning coal, oil or wood would reduce the carbon-13/carbon-12 ratio in the air; but only coal or oil burning would reduce the carbon-14 ratio. Hence a distinction was to be made, which could be followed through time in tree ring measurements.

The problem is that the variations of carbon-13 concentration are so small that spurious effects can obscure the measurements: and that is what Dr R. J. Francey of the CSIRO Division of Atmospheric Physics, Aspendale, Victoria, appears to have proved with his Tasmanian tree ring measurements.

Francey's trees were on remote, wind-blasted slopes of Tasmania, quite unaffected by any man-made sources of carbon dioxide. And over the past 100 years they showed no variation in the amount of carbon-13 being fixed in the rings.

In contrast, measurements of carbon-13 being fixed in trees in mid-latitudes of the northern hemisphere showed a distinct decrease in carbon-13, which had been attributed to fuel burning throughout the century reducing the carbon-13 content of the atmosphere.

Other experiments have shown that carbon dioxide mixes between the two hemispheres in a year or so, so the Tasmanian trees should have shown the same trend as the northern ones. Since they do not, it follows that neither set of trees can be taken unambiguously to be measuring the carbon-13 in the air.

Without the trees, which provide the record, the whole method collapses. So work progresses on understanding the differences. But, some climatologists suspect, this is a nail in the coffin of the carbon-13 method.

Source: *Nature*, 19 March (vol 290, p 232) 1981.
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Today's engagements

The Queen visits Intelligence centre, Templer Barracks, Ashford, Kent, 11.15, visits Leeds Castle, 3.15.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron and chairman, opens International Assembly of National Sports Confederations, Melbourne, Australia.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits Trinity Hospice (The Hostel of God), Clapham, 3.30.

The Duke of Gloucester attends golden jubilee luncheon given by the Research Association for the Paper and Board, Printing and Packaging Industries, Stationers' Hall, 12.45.

Lectures: The symbolic world of Paul Nash, Pat Turner, Tate Gallery, 1; Technical Drawing, Ken Baynes, Victoria and Albert Museum, 1.15; Hampstead story, Victoriana, Christopher Wade, Burgh House, New End Square, 8; Spirit of the nation, law and order, Sir David McNee, St Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall, 1.15; Preserving film and television, Anthony Smith, Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, 6; Churches in the USSR, David Small, London Bible Gallery, 146 Queen Victoria Street, 12.15; Regency patrons, Giles Waterfield, National Gallery, 1; The missing link: Roman pottery from India, Kenneth Whitehorn, British Museum, 11.30.

Camden Festival: Chinese evening with Jing Ying soloists and Nancy Kuo, Round House, Chalk Farm Road, 7.30.

Lunchtime music: Richard Townend, baroque organ music, St Margaret Lothbury, 1.10; Andrew Benians, organ, St Bride's, 1.15; Amy Marshak, piano, Holy Sepulchre, 1.15.

Chairman of the GLC visits London Borough of Bromley, 10-3.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, March 24, 1956

Islamic republic

From Our Correspondent

Karachi, March 23.—Pakistan today became an Islamic Republic within the Commonwealth. A proclamation announcing her new status was read to a distinguished gathering of over 1,000 persons and afterwards the Chief Justice, Mr Mohammad Munir, administered the oath of office to Major General Iskander Mirza. . . . In the afternoon prayers of thanksgiving were held at many places of worship and food and clothes were distributed to the poor in all refugee colonies. Karachi has a festive look and elaborate arrangements have been made to illuminate and decorate all government and semi-government buildings.

University news

Oxford
Elections:
TRINITY COLLEGE: Junior research fellowship: Jane Spencer, BA (Hull); Open exhibition: M. E. Porter, formerly of Trinity School, Croydon.
CHRIST CHURCH: Official studentship in agricultural sciences: A. W. Speedy, MA, PhD (Cantab); Official Studentship in music and as organist of cathedral: F. Grier, MA (Cantab); Lectureship in physics: P. E. G. Baird, BSc [illegible], D Phil; Schoolteacher studentships: J. B. Smith MA (Cantab), Tonbridge School, for Hilary Term, 1982, and V. H. Harris, MA (Bristol), King's School, Canterbury, for Trinity Term, 1982.
BRASENOSE COLLEGE: Platnauer junior research fellowship: J. Bartlett, BA, Worcester College.
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE: Junior research fellowships: Paul K. Dresch, BA St Catherine's College, anthropology; J. Rebecca Lyman, MA (Catholic University of America, Washington), St Hilda's College, theology.
ORIEL COLLEGE: Exhibition: S. J. Williams, commoner of the College, formerly of St Edward's College, Liverpool.
University College honorary fellowship: Sir Patrick Nairne, MC, MA, Permanent Secretary to the Department of Health & Social Security; Radcliffe travelling fellowship: E. H. Walters, MA, BM, Jesus College.
KEBLE COLLEGE: Emeritus fellowships: Professor J. S. Bromley, formerly Professor of Modern History at Southampton University; Professor A. E. Campbell, Professor of American history at Birmingham University; Professor E. M. Hugh-Jones, Professor Emeritus at Keele University; Professor B. G. Mitchell, Nolloth professor of philosophy of the Christian religion at Oxford University; the Rev Professor [illegible] C. Stead, Ely Professor of divinity at Cambridge; Air Vice-Marshal W. J. Maggs, former Domestic Bursar at Keble College.

Awards
Andrew Lesens travel bursary, C.S.O. Carlill, Hertford College; Matthew Arnold memorial prize, J. Kerrigan, BA, Merton College; Sophie Smallwood prize in paediatrics, G. A. Luzzi, Green College; Sally Hirsch, Jesus College; Shelley-Mills prize, Linda J. Brandon, St Hilda's College; Conington prize, M. Davies, MA, DPhil, fellow of St John's College; Sarum lectureship for 1982-83, Professor Henry Chadwick, Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge University.

Cambridge
Elections
Cambridge Livingstone Trust Scholarships from October 1: M. A. S. Chiponde, Zambia (History); D. M. Dlamini, Swaziland (Physics); H. R. Green, South Africa (Development studies); Miss O. M. Lisewa, Malawi (Education); M. M. Maema, Lesotho (Applied Biology); Miss L. Mallare, South Africa (Social and political sciences); L. M. M. Mbao, Zambia (Electrical engineering); H. W. J. Van Rensburg, South Africa (Applied mathematics).
GIRTON COLLEGE: Research fellowships: N. R. Bernhoeft, BA (Sara Woodhead research fellow); S. G. Harrigate, MA (Eugenie Strong research fellow); D. H. Jones, BA (Tucker-Price research fellow); G. R. Niemann, MA (Margaret Smith research fellow).

Awards
Gladstone memorial prize, 1981: P. M. Gurowich, BA (St John's).
Gedge prize, 1980: C. L. Huang, MA, PhD (New Hall).
Craven scholarship, a Henry Arthur Thomas prize and Hallam prize, 1981: D. S. Hole (Peterhouse).
Pitt scholarship and a Henry Arthur Thomas prize, 1981: S. A. Marston (Magdalene).
John Stewart of Rannoch scholarships in Greek and Latin, 1981: E. C. Neish (Newnham) and A. Makower (Trinity).
Sir William Browne's Medals for 1981: Greek ode, S. C. Todd (Trinity); Latin epigram, S. C. Todd (Trinity).
Hare prize, 1981: J. C. McKeown, MA, PhD (Sidney Sussex).
Members' classical essay prize, 1980-81: C. J. Osborne, BA (King's).
Members' classical reading prize for Greek, 1980-81: D. E. Powell (Newnham).
Members' classical translation prize for Greek and the prize for Latin, 1980-81: G. H. Lobel (Trinity).
Montagu Butler prize, 1981: D. S. Hole (Peterhouse); G. H. Lobel (Trinity); S. A. Marston (Magdalene) aeq.

Keele
Honorary degrees are to be conferred in May and June on the following:
DLitt: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, Professor W. A. C. Stewart and Mr Charles Tomlinson.
DUniv: Mr Jack Ashley, MP.
DSc: Professor Christian de Duve.
MUniv: Sir David Barritt.
MA: Mr James Gould.

Leicester
Grant:
Science Research Council: £[illegible] to Professor K. A. Pounds for continuing research into the source and nature of extraterrestrial X-radiation.

Correction

The announcement of elections to fellowships at The Queen's College, Oxford, published on March 20 should have read as follows:
QUEEN'S COLLEGE.—Official fellowship and praelectorship in modern history: W. J. Blair, BA Brasenose College; Clifford Norton junior research fellowship in economics: S. N. Broadberry, BA (Warwick), M.Phil, Nuffield College.

OBITUARY

FIELD MARSHAL SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK

Defensive strategy which led to victory in the desert

Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, GCB, GCIE, CSI, DSO, OBE, who died on March 23 in Marrakesh, was one of the most striking and attractive figures among modern British soldiers. He was 96.



His force of personality, high-mindedness and charm were acknowledged by all who met him. During politically troubled times in India he was liked and trusted by Indian leaders who had little that was good to say of most of the other Britons with whom they came in contact. As Commander-in-Chief in India in critical years his influence was strong, beneficent and popular, and he will be remembered as one of the ablest who ever held that honourable post. In the final phase of British control in India he suffered bitter disappointment and lost some of his vast prestige, but this should not be allowed to dim a great record.

As a commander in the field he achieved a most meritorious victory in Africa against a hostile army far better equipped than his own. In a subsequent stage of the campaign he had to endure a crushing defeat. Yet after that defeat he saved Egypt from being overrun and held up an opponent in full course for Alexandria and the Nile Delta.

Indeed he laid the basis from which Britain's eventual strategic victory was achieved. However, his political master at the time failed to perceive this, and responding more to fashionable currents than military analysis, decided to change the command in North Africa. Auchinleck was sacked, and spent the best part of a year kicking his heels in the hills of India before he was allowed to return to the Indian task he understood so thoroughly.

He was a fine and accomplished soldier and a fine spirit, a great general and an idealist.

Auchinleck's refusal to engage in the battle of the generals' memoirs while many others succumbed (and did not always do great service to their reputations) was very much in character. However, in December, 1967, he presented 20 folders of his personal papers, covering the period 1939-47, to Manchester University library where they were to be made freely available to students of military history.

Claude John Eyre Auchinleck, who came of an old Scots family established in Ulster, was born on June 21, 1884, the son of Colonel John Claude Auchinleck, RHA. He was educated at Wellington and Sandhurst and was posted in 1904 to the 62nd Punjabs, later the 1/1st Punjab Regiment. Having got his captaincy in 1912, he went with his regiment to Egypt on the outbreak of the 1914-18 War. He served at Aden in 1915 and in Mesopotamia from 1916 to the end of the war. He saw the heavy fighting of Aylmer's successive attempts to relieve Kut-el-Amara. He was also present at the Battle of Kut in January, 1917, and the advance to Baghdad. In September of that year he became brigade major of 52 Brigade and was promoted major. He was appointed GSO2 after the Turkish Armistice so that his promotion on the staff ladder was slow by comparison with that of several of his contemporaries; Dill, for example, one year older, was at that time chief General Staff officer of an army corps. Auchinleck had, however, been awarded the DSO in 1917, was thrice mentioned in dispatches, and created OBE in 1919. His career already appeared promising.

He was an early student at the Imperial Defence College in 1927. In February, 1929, after promotion to lieutenant-colonel, he assumed command of his regiment. In 1933 he took over command of the Peshawar Brigade and immediately distinguished himself in the operations against the Upper Mohmands, for which he was credited CB and again mentioned. Mountain warfare is of all forms that demanding most insistently the professional competence which can be learnt, and the most brilliant man finds himself in difficulties without it. Auchinleck both knew the ropes and had a flair for war.

In the further Mohmand operations of 1935 he was mentioned once more and made CSI. In 1935 he was promoted major-general and next year became Deputy Chief of the General Staff at headquarters.

At the time of the allied intervention in Norway in 1940 Auchinleck was in England and was placed in command of the forces in the Narvik area, though not until after the original landing. Narvik was duly recovered from the enemy and his forces were pushed back until they were on the point of crossing the Swedish frontier, which would have involved their internment. However, the calls of the western front, where the German offensive had [illegible] been launched, necessitated withdrawal from northern Norway. Auchinleck had done his work well, but it was a disappointing start.

Shortly after his return he was entrusted with the Southern Command in England, but in January, 1941, he became Commander-in-Chief in India. Before the end of 1940 he had been promoted first to the rank of Lieutenant-General, then to that of General, within the year, and had been created a GCIE. The appointment, for which he was eminently fitted, did not last more than six months. On July 2, 1941, it was announced that he had been appointed GOC-in-C Middle East in succession to Sir Archibald Wavell, who took over Auchinleck's post in India.

The record of Auchinleck's command in Egypt would be virtually the history of a whole phase of the war. Two secondary offensives carried out by Wavell had been sharply checked soon before the change in command took place, and his successor refused to be hurried into another. He had also considerable responsibilities outside the theatre, including the winding-up of the campaign in East Africa. On November 18 began the British advance round the southern flank of the Axis force's position on the Italian frontier. There followed a long and extraordinarily confused battle in which, after initial successes, the signs at one moment pointed to a defeat. By sheer grit and pertinacity the Commonwealth forces of the Eighth Army fought down their better-armed foe and compelled him to retreat into Cyrenaica, leaving some 20,000 prisoners, with masses of material and raising the siege of Tobruk. It was a handsome victory and remained so on balance even after Rommel, having received reinforcements, pushed the Eighth Army out of Benghazi and back to a position known as the Gazala Line, with right flank on the sea some 35 miles west of Tobruk. The influence of Auchinleck upon the battle had been great, perhaps decisive, and he had taken the drastic step of changing his Army commander in the midst of the fighting.

A renewed offensive, which was to have been undertaken mainly for the salvation of Malta, was forestalled in May, 1942, by Rommel, whose armoured strength had vastly increased owing to our inability to interfere seriously with his shipping. Auchinleck had warned the Prime Minister that, if he suffered defeat in Cyrenaica, he would be unable to hold the prepared positions in rear for lack of armour and would have to fall back all the way to Alamein.

In the event the outcome of the battle at Gazala was a defeat for the British, the loss of Tobruk, its garrison and stores and a precipitate withdrawal to the line at El Alamein. But it would be hard to apportion too much blame for this to Auchinleck. His own appreciation of Rommel's choices had been faultless, but in the battle which ensued his Eighth Army commander, Gene[ral] Ritchie, disregarded Auch[in]leck's advice to hold back [his] armour and concentrate i[t for] a counter-attack against R[om]mel and instead dissipated [his] armour in penny packets, en[ab]ling Rommel to destroy [it]. Misunderstandings certai[nly] then seemed to follow betw[een] Auchinleck and Ritc[hie]. Auchinleck became incr[eas]ingly perturbed at the deli[bera]te nature of Ritchie's c[om]mand and the lack of urge[ncy] with which he seemed to [be] viewing the battle and wh[ich] only too soon resulted in [the] loss of Tobruk. Once again [he] had to come up from his he[ad]quarters in Cairo and assu[me] direct command of the bat[tle]. Once this happened he h[eld] up the enemy on the new [line] at Alamein, blunted the las[t of] his repeated attacks and m[ade] certain that Rommel would [ad]vance no further in Africa.

The authors of the third [vol]ume on the Mediterranean [and] the Middle East in the Hist[ory] of the Second World War ser[ve to] vindicate Auchinleck's ma[in] decisions. They give him f[ull] credit for turning retreat i[nto] counterattack in the fighting [of] July, 1942, and point out t[hat] the success of the offens[ive] at El Alamein in October t[hat] year "should not be allow[ed] to overshadow the earli[er] achievements of those who ma[de] it possible".

In June, 1943, Auchinle[ck] succeeded Wavell, who had fo[r]merly succeeded him, as Co[m]mander-in-Chief in India. He w[as] not surprised by his superse[s]sion, which he had in fact s[ug]gested, but he was hurt by t[he] brusque attitude of the Pri[me] Minister, who carried it ou[t on] the spot. Direct responsibil[ity] for the conduct of operati[ons] against the Japanese was wi[th]drawn from him, but he b[ore] the heaviest weight, since In[dia] had to provide bases, troo[ps] and supplies for the campa[ign] in Burma. Recruitment, traini[ng,] administration, relations w[ith] Chinese and American for[ces] fell to him, together with [a] great deal of semi-political wo[rk] in which he excelled.

His prestige in India, m[uch] enhanced by his earlier br[ief] spell as Commander-in-Chief [and] untouched by his ill fortune [in] North Africa, proved invalua[ble] in the great expansion of [the] Indian Army and of war ind[us]try in India, which occur[red] during the latter part of [the] war. He gave the Supreme C[om]mander, South-East Asia, a[ble] and ungrudging support. He [was] created G.C.B. in 1945 and [pro]moted to the rank of Fi[eld] Marshal in 1946, and both th[ese] high honours were earned [by] splendid service.

The last phase in India [was] less happy. His one concern [was] now the future of the Ind[ian] Army, of the war record [of] which he was intensely pro[ud]. The partition of India into [two] dominions led to the split[ting] of the Army, in itself a c[rip]pling blow to its efficiency [and] made still worse by the vir[tual] civil war which broke out [in the] Punjab. Whether wisely or [not] Auchinleck determined to [stay] on, in his new appointment [as] "Supreme Commander", [to] reconstitute the forces of [the] two dominions; but in Nov[em]ber, 1947, it was announced [in] unusually blunt terms that [his] task had been made impossi[ble] by the absence of a spirit [of] good will and cooperation [be]tween them. Despite grave [dif]ferences with political lead[ers] he left, after 44 years' servi[ce,] to the deep regret of ma[ny] Indian friends and above all [of] the Indian soldier. In a lectu[re] in London he revealed that [his] grievances were against Ind[ia] not Pakistan, from which [he] had obtained a large measu[re] of support. He had been [the] most popular of all Indian Co[m]manders-in-Chief.

After his retirement he liv[ed] an active and busy life, c[on]stantly travelling by air [be]tween this country and Ind[ia] where he had important, a[nd] in general, successful busine[ss] interests.

He eventually retired to li[ve] in Morocco.

To his friends he was alwa[ys] the best of company over t[he] dinner table, amusing, inspiri[ng] and critical, though never cru[el] or self-pitying. He was a ve[ry] fine character and a very attra[c]tive one.

Auchinleck married in 19[21] Jessie, daughter of Alexand[er] Stewart, of Innerhadden, Ki[n]loch-Rannoch, Perthshire, b[ut] obtained a divorce in 194[6]. There were no children of t[he] marriage.

MR G. J. HUMPHRIES

Mr George James Humphries, CMG, OBE, late Director of Overseas Surveys and Survey Adviser to the Minister of Overseas Development, died on March 19 in his eighty-first year.

Humphries was directly associated with the birth, and the first 20 years of life, of the Directorate of Colonial (later Overseas) Surveys, an organization which, at the time of his retirement as director in 1965, had mapped over 1,360,000 square miles of what were initially the colonies and later the developing countries of the Commonwealth. Humphries's own contribution to the success of this operation was immense.

He was educated at Magdalen College School, Brackley and Reading University and was recruited into the Colonial Survey Service in 1928. He spent the next 11 years in Nigeria and, at the outbreak of war, joined the Royal Engineers Survey Service, in which he rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Up to this point, his career had been somewhat conventional but, in 1943, he was asked to draw up a plan for a central organization which, when the war ended, would coordinate and execute the geodetic and topographical surveys required by the colonies for their rapid development.

Such an organization could have been overwhelmed by the rules and regulations attaching to a central government department but, in 1946, Humphries was appointed deputy director of the new organization, in charge of field surveys. He set to with his colleagues to establish a department in which red tape was rarely seen and production was the order of the day.

In the 17 years during which he held the post, he became a father figure to the surveyors—unconventional civil servants to a man—who worked for him. He met with equanimity the crises (personal and technical) which they, working in remote areas and under difficult conditions, generated. He took a direct personal interest in the progress of the newest recruit and he travelled thousands of miles to visit his surveyors in their remote camps and see conditions at first hand.

His wisest decision (made in the face of considerable opposition from colleagues and con[temporaries]) was to embra[ce] the new technology of ele[c]tronic distance measureme[nt] the moment it was invented [in] 1959. Others hung back, b[ut] Humphries's decision gave th[e] directorate a fourfold increa[se] in productivity and a techniqu[e] which never failed.

Humphries personally inte[r]viewed all candidates for th[e] Colonial Survey Service (an[d] the service of successor gover[n]ments) from 1946 to 1963. Hi[s] skill at judging men wa[s] reflected in the solid founda[]tions which had been built i[n] most Colonial Survey Depar[t]ments at the time of indepen[]dence.

But his greatest memoria[l] must be the directorate itsel[f]. The initial plan was his and it[s] successful implementation wa[s] largely due to his inflexibl[e] determination to see it succeed. The current total of 2,500,00[0] square miles of mapping repr[e]sents a major contribution t[o] the development of the Thir[d] World countries of the Com[]monwealth.

Humphries was appointe[d] OBE in 1954 and CMG in 196[3].

Professor Beatrice Tinsley, Professor of Astronomy at Yale, died on March 23 at the age of 40. Born in England, she went to the United States in 1963 and joined the Yale faculty in 1975.

Lady Huxley, wife of Sir Leonard Huxley, KBE, formerly Vice-Chancellor of the Australian National University, died on March 21 at the age of 75. She was Molly, daughter of F. G. Copeland, and she was married in 1929.

Mr Charles Edward Clarke, CBE, who died on March 21 a[t] the age of 68, was Directin[g] Actuary, Government Actuary Department, 1970-74. He wa[s] the author of *Social Insurance in Britain* (1950).

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Recession saps German confidence, page 19

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 511.7, up 10.5
FT Gilts 70.08, down 0.11

■ **Sterling**
$2.2660, up 165 pts
Index 100.6, up 0.5

■ **Dollar**
Index 99.2, down 0.1
DM2.0815, down 57 pts

■ **Gold**
$540.50, up $18

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 12$\frac{13}{16}$-12$\frac{11}{16}$
3 mth Euro $ 15-14$\frac{3}{4}$
6 mth Euro $ 14$\frac{13}{16}$-14$\frac{11}{16}$

Cut in vehicle shipments to America vital, Japan told

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 24

President Reagan has decided that a reduction in Japanese car exports to the United States is essential. He is believed to have told Mr Masayoshi Ito, the foreign minister of Japan, at a White House meeting today that Japan should find a way to restrain car shipments to America.

The Administration is seeking to protect the ailing American car industry without formally approving protectionist measures, such as quotas or special import tariffs.

A cabinet level task force, headed by Mr Drew Lewis, secretary of transportation, has concluded that swift action by Japan on voluntary restraints is vital if the United States Congress is to be stopped from passing tough protectionist legislation.

The White House has not yet decided on the desirable level of Japanese car imports. Last year, Japan exported 1.9 million cars to America. The Administration is hoping that the Japanese will take the initiative and set levels of their own, but Mr Ito has indicated that his government wants a clear signal from President Reagan.

Mr Lewis said that it was his understanding that the Japanese authorities wanted to be told bluntly just what the United States Administration really wanted. He said it was in Japan's best interest to reduce their exports, and it was his personal view that the reduction should be 200,000 to 500,000 cars below last year's level.

Leaders of the American car industry are strongly in favour of restraints on the Japanese. It looks as if the Ford Motor Company might have losses in the first quarter of this year of around $500m after a loss of $1,500m last year. Chrysler is also likely to sustain substantial losses.

Each of the United States manufacturers is offering rebates to boost sales.

The White House expects that any deal struck with Japan will bring angry protests from the Europeans. However, officials suggested that countries such as Italy and France had long used administrative methods to block imports of Japanese cars.

Bank backs more pension fund legislation

By Margaret Stone

The Bank of England's city capital markets committee has come down firmly in favour of further legislation for pension funds—a stand not shared by the Government which has already made clear its own preference for voluntary improvements for the industry.

Like the Government, the committee has rejected most of the calls made by the Wilson Report for the tightening, through legislation, of both pension fund structure and the investment framework within which schemes operate.

But it does share some of the concern expressed by the Wilson Report about the rights of pension scheme members (and pensioners) to participate in the management of their pension schemes, and their right to information which will enable them to judge whether or not the scheme is being properly administered.

Its recommendations differ in several ways from those of the Wilson Report. In a statement issued yesterday, the committee said: "We do not recommend anything as comprehensive and complicated, and therefore as cumbersome, as a 'Pensions Scheme Act' analogous to the Companies Act."

Instead the committee wants legislation to give members and pensioners the right to appoint 50 per cent of the trustees, with the method of choosing them open to local agreement, subject to safeguards that no significant category is left unrepresented.

The proposed legislation would also require the trustees to notify members that they can have access to relevant information, as laid down by the industry's own code of practice.

Unlike the Wilson Report the committee thinks it would be "wasteful" for pension schemes to send reports and accounts to all members irrespective of whether or not they wanted them.

But the committee does pick up a possibility suggested by the Wilson Report. It recommends provision for the appointment of a inspector (by the Occupational Pensions Board) where schemes are badly run. It also agrees that details about the extent of self investment should be revealed.

The National Association of Pension Funds, which has already set in motion the code of practice for giving members greater information, last night welcomed the committee's stand in preference to the Wilson Report. Mr Henry James, the director general, said "They are more practicable and much more acceptable."

Financial Editor, page 19

Extra 4pc saving for bulk power users

By John Huxley

Industrial users should be able to cut their electricity bills by as much as 4 per cent by using a new flexible supply contract, details of which were given yesterday.

Taken with concessions being negotiated individually by area boards, total savings for bulk load users could amount to 8 per cent. This is the figure mentioned by the Government when it announced a £15Sm package aimed at reducing industry's energy bill earlier this month.

Ministers recognized that the new scheme would affect the supply industry's ability to meet its financial targets, and adjusted its external financing limit of £210m for 1981/82 by £45m. The new scheme will be available to large users who can respond to reduced supply at notice as short as 15 minutes.

Central Electricity Generating Board chiefs said yesterday that the introduction of the new category represented a limited attempt to help hard-pressed customers. They stressed, however, that the measures were temporary.

At the same time, the board gave details of its bulk supply tariff, which may be affected it is 13 per cent higher for the early part of 1981-82, against 1980-81.

The CEGB emphasized that officials had faced considerable uncertainty in calculating the tariff, which may be affected by fuel cost adjustments.

Much depends upon the cost of the coal bought by the CEGB. Fuel accounted for about 60 per cent of the board's £6,000m costs this year which are expected to total more than £4,000m in 1981-82.

The CEGB has assumed that coal price rises will not exceed the rate of inflation—as agreed in a 1979 understanding allowing the board to buy 75 million tonnes a year from the National Coal Board.

However, it admits that its calculations could be upset if coal prices rise faster, depending on the level of wage settlement reached with the National Union of Mineworkers in November.

Talks over coal purchases are continuing, but the CEGB has confirmed that it has not yet been told to stop imports, which this year will total about four million tonnes, one million tonnes less than originally expected. However, because of reduced demand imports are likely to be only two million tonnes in 1981/82.

Uncertainty also exists over likely oil prices next year and the ability of nuclear power stations to meet a larger proportion of CEGB requirements.

Shipbuilders lifts pay offer to 6.8 per cent

By Donald Macintyre

British Shipbuilders yesterday offered its 70,000 manual workers and staff increases of 6.8 per cent in two days of negotiations which broke up last night without agreement.

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions is to seek further improvements in the terms of the offer, which had been raised from 5 per cent and would give the average skilled manual worker an estimated average of another £8 a week.

The two sides will today use talks in London on a restructuring programme to set a date for the next meeting. Mr James Murray, leader of the union's negotiating team, said last night: "We have told them that the offer is not acceptable at the present time."

Talks had earlier come close to breakdown when a tentative offer outlined in private talks the previous night was withdrawn after the personal intervention of Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman of British Shipbuilders. Mr Atkinson is understood to have made it clear that he could not agree to a six-month moratorium on compulsory redundances being included in the agreement, due to take effect from April 1. He said, however, that he wanted to discuss with the unions, in separate talks, moves towards a mutually acceptable job security formula for the industry.

The moratorium proposal had been aired during Monday's late night talks between CSEU leaders and a management team led by Mr Kenneth Griffin, deputy chairman of the corporation.

Although British Shipbuilders will insist on measures to recoup a large part of the deal's costs through improved productivity, it is not now expected to insist that only workers who have reached, in advance, local deals on yard efficiency will be paid the national increase. Instead, it will seek to agree a formula for continuous joint monitoring to ensure that national guidelines are observed.

These include limits on overtime, interchangeability between trades, an effective ban on recruitment, reaffirmation of the disputes procedure, and hopefully some form of "no strike clause".

Mr Atkinson said last night that the corporation was determined to improve productivity in return for this year's settlement. He acknowledged that the offer was below the inflation rate, but said: "We are working like beavers to keep Cammell Laird and Scott Lithgow going. We are competing for orders where our prices are too high. Where do we find the money if we are losing money and we cannot win orders."

Advisers to 'insolvent' company criticized

By Philip Robinson

A small merchant bank, three firms of accountants, a leading stockbroking firm and a stockbroker were severely criticized yesterday in a Department of Trade report into the collapse of Kina Holdings, which won the Queens Award for exports in 1975 by falsifying its figures.

The award was annulled last month, after Mr Edwin Hearn, the Kina managing director, was jailed for admitting gaining the award by deception. Kina Holdings, a public but unquoted company collapsed after nine years in October 1975 owing shareholders, including the M & G group and creditors nearly £1.3m.

Mr William Denny QC and Mr Kenneth Webb, the inspectors say in their report: "Our own investigations lead us to believe the company was never solvent. The remarkable thing is that it survived as long at it did."

Kina started life as Jaggard Brothers, a small private company with an issued share capital of £500 which was dormant for six years. Towards the end of 1966 it was reactivated by Mr Edwin Hearn, its principal shareholder, then aged 43. The following year he was joined by Miss Heather Clouston.

Throughout most of the company's life they had with them Mr Thomas Allright who, the inspectors say, played an important part in the company's affairs.

The report says that Kina was beset permanently by chronic cash problems. "Normal and proper remedies were never sufficient and the company turned to various expedients, most of which involved cynical disregard for the truth in their operation."

In an attempt to raise more cash in 1970, Mr Hearn turned to Close Brothers, the merchant bankers. The inspectors conclude that the subsequent issue to raise money should not have taken place. They say they are not satisfied that Close Brothers did all they could before inviting their clients to invest.

They say the prospectus was misleading in several respects and that Harold Everett, Wand & Co, the company's auditors at the time, failed to achieve the requisite standards of care and Dixon, Wilson, Tubbs and Gillett, the company's reporting accountants, did not adequately discharge their duties with regard to the flotation.

Kina's audit for the years from 1972 was carried out by Collins & Co (later Collins, Soanes & Co). "The startling inadequacy of these audits we have to deal with in some detail", the inspectors say.

The inspectors say that reference must also be made to two directors whose presence at Kina contributed significantly to successive injections of finance.

Mr Lionel Arbis, a partner with Greene & Co, stockbrokers, joined the group in 1971 and helped to negotiate progressive increases in overdraft facilities made available by Barclays.

The final fund raising came in 1975 on the arrival of Vickers da Costa, stockbrokers. Vickers would not sponsor such fund-raising. The inspectors say the brokers were right, but wrong to allow Mr Marcus Gregson, their corporate finance department manager, to go ahead and raise money for Kina "under his own banner".

IN BRIEF

Grand Met puts $10m into genetic engineering

Grand Metropolitan has taken ı $10m (£4.5m) stake in Biogen, he genetic engineering comıany which was formed early ast year to exploit the techıology of gene-splicing to reate a new source of phamaeuticals, fine chemicals and uels from crops.

The investment of a group uch as Grand Metropolitan ends a fresh impetus to this apidly developing field.

It has been dominated by he big oil and chemical groups vhich have acquired holdings n companies such as Genentech f San Francisco, Cetus of Berkeley, both in California, nd Genex of Maryland.

;ir Peter Carey to take)ver engineering talks

A last meeting yesterday beween Sir Keith Joseph, the ecretary of State for Industry, nd leaders of the engineering rofession failed to resolve the talemate about the structure f the new supervisory body or engineering proposed by he Government.

But the meeting cleared the ir sufficiently for further disussions which will now be led y Sir Peter Carey, Permanent ecretary at the Department of ndustry.

;peaker rules on Lloyd's vote

Members of Parliament who re also members of Lloyd's ere advised in the Commons esterday to refrain from voting n the Lloyd's Bill, which is esigned to improve the self egulation of the insurance narket and which came before ıe Commons last night. There re 53 MPs who are members f Lloyd's, including 13 memers of the Government.

Citibank cuts prime

Citibank yesterday became ıe second leading United tates bank to cut its prime ate to 17 per cent last week. hemical Bank cut its prime ate to 17 per cent last week. ut the cuts surprised foreign xchange dealers, who thought Inited States interest rates had ottomed out, and the dollar as marked down in late European trading.

Air scheme halted

Efforts by British Caledonian Airways to establish a joint ir service between Britain nd Australia with Ansett, the Australian independent airline, ıave come to a halt. BCal ıopes that talks will be esumed in the future.

Monopolies report

The Monopolies Commission's eport on the £124m bid by S & W Berisford for British Sugar Corporation is expected o be released today.

German steel warning

West Germany will not allow heaper steel from EEC counries subsidizing their plants to nter the German market.

Wall Street down

The Dow Jones industrial verage closed at 996.13, down 1.10 on Wall Street yesterday. The $=SDR exchange rates was .23323 while the £=SDR rate vas 0.546523.

Midlands courts Datsun

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial Correspondent

Five hundred business and civic leaders are meeting in Wolverhampton tomorrow in a campaign to attract the proposed £200m Datsun car plant to the West Midlands.

They will be told that the Government's recent refusal to grant the region assisted area status can be more than offset by siting the plant in the traditional heartland of the British car industry.

Senior officials preparing the West Midlands' submission to McKinsey, the management consultants acting for Nissan, believe that the availability of assisted area grants will be secondary.

They point out that both BL and Talbot, which had reluctantly opened plants in assisted areas, later closed down and fell back on more reliable bases in the West Midlands.

THF seeks vote on Savoy Hotel offer

By Philip Robinson

Sir Charles Forte's Trusthouse Forte empire is to seek leave from the High Court to call meetings of shareholders of the Savoy Hotel chain for which his group is bidding £58m. And, in a statement yesterday, Sir Hugh Wontner, Savoy chairman, says he will fight it.

Trusthouse Forte's merchant bank adviser, S. G. Warburg, said the group has decided to seek leave to summon meetings of the "A" and "B" classes of Savoy shareholders under a Scheme of Arrangement using Section 206 of the 1948 Companies Act.

If they succeed, the Trusthouse Forte offer to each class of shareholder will be put to the vote. Sir Charles believes that, if he can get the required majority of "A" shareholders—which together control 51.5 per cent of the total votes—he will be able to manage the chain.

Sir Hugh says: "We shall do everything in our power to prevent THF taking advantage of the Section 206 Scheme device which, as THF proposes to use it, we regard as fundamentally objectionable."

THF's scheme is an attempt to circumvent the complicated shareholding structure which gives the Savoy board a declared 40 per cent of a two-vote carrying "B" class—it is estimated that 48 per cent of the total votes are in friendly hands—while it has only about 5 per cent of the 10-shares per vote "A" shares.

BPC may cut 2,000 more printing jobs

By David Hewson

BPC, Britain's largest printing company, faces possible plant closures and a further 2,000 redundancies in addition to the loss of 1,684 jobs agreed by the print unions in recent weeks.

None of the redundancies will be in the company's vital gravure plants, which were yesterday reported to be facing a £50m expansion and modernization programme.

Print union leaders, who are due to meet Mr Robert Maxwell, BPC's new deputy chairman and chief executive, this week to discuss new demands, were unavailable for comment last night, but it is believed that they hold little hope of stemming the job losses.

The rescue operation organized by Mr Maxwell for BPC appears to have been underwritten by the group's banks on the understanding that an extensive reduction in the workforce would be forthcoming. BPC lost about £6.5m in the last six months of last year.

If the latest round of redundancies is agreed, BPC's workforce will shrink from about 10,500 at the moment to less than 7,000. It is not known which plants BPC wants to cut back or close but they are expected to be outside the group's mainstream printing operation.

The redundancies already agreed will mean the loss of at least 800 jobs at Purnell, the book and general printers, and 635 jobs in five companies producing TV Times.

But Mr Maxwell painted an optimistic picture for BPC's gravure operations yesterday when he announced that its principal gravure plants—Sun Printers of Watford, Purnell Gravure based at Poulton near Bristol, and Fell & Briant of Croydon—were to be formed into a new company to be called the British Gravure Corporation.

The immediate task of the new corporation was to regain some £50m worth of orders lost by British gravure printers during the past three years to Italian, German, American and Swiss competitors, Mr Maxwell said.

Lloyds staff in picket line clash

By Paul Routledge

Tempers flared on a bank workers' picket line outside the Lloyds Bank computer centre in Blackfriars, London, yesterday. Striking members of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) objected to members of the rival non-TUC Clearing Bank Union crossing their picket line to go into work.

About 800 of Lloyds staff went on a 24-hour strike at the Sampson House Computing Centre. Mr David Evans, Bifu's senior London organizer, urged the employers to "come to their senses" before industrial action spread to the high street banks.

Cash cards: Action at the Lloyds computer centre failed to close any of the bank's automatic cashpoints in any part of the country, (writes Margareta Pagano).

The cash points operated normally because sufficient staff from other unions crossed the picke line to monitor the terminals.

Security services were at first refused entry to deliver cheques, but by the close of business Lloyds said they had cleared 80 per cent of the one and a half million cheques dealt with by the system each day.

The remaining cheques were stored in safe keeping for presentation this morning.

Other parts of London are being ballotted this week as part of the second stage o industrial action threatened by Bifu.

Results of the Bifu ballot on extending the action should be known by the end of the week and talks centre on work-to-rule, overtime bans and more one day strikes. There are plans to include Midland, National Westminster and William and Glyn's banks.

Spreading strike, page 18



Pickets outside the Lloyds London computer centre.

Onshore licences awarded

By John Huxley

Three onshore oil production licences covering areas in Yorkshire, Humberside and Lincolnshire and Hampshire were awarded by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday.

The licences authorize the holders to drill for and produce petroleum, if found. In each case they relate to areas previously covered by exploration licences, which permit an oil and gas search only by means of a geological survey.

Pacific Basins (UK) has been awarded a licence covering 160 sq km, to the south-east of Leeds.

A group comprising BP Petroleum Development, British Gas Corporation and Candecca Resources has been granted a production licence for an area of 215.8 sq km, to the east of Scunthorpe.

A 95.9 sq km area west of Eastleigh, Hampshire, is covered in a licence granted to Amoco UK Petroleum and Ultramar Exploration.

Meanwhile, Phillips Petroleum UK has disclosed further encouraging details about its T-block in the North Sea.

Run on peso hits Argentine reserves

From Tony Emerson
Buenos Aires, March 24

With small investors fighting their way into exchange houses, the run against the Argentine peso has gathered an inexorable momentum. In six banking days Argentina has lost over $1,000m (£442.5m)—a fifth of her reserves.

Though the logical way of avoiding further losses would be a big devaluation of the peso—its dollar parity has increased at only a third of the rate of inflation—Dr Martinez De Hoz, Minister of the Economy until next Sunday, is determined to keep faith with his financial backers and maintain the predetermined exchange rate.

His admirers praise his loyalty: his detractors point to the vast arbitrage created by monthly interest rates of over 8 per cent and monthly devaluation of 3 per cent.

The central bank, many of whose directors' connexions have been the chief beneficiaries of this arbitrage, has weighed in with its ploys for defending the present exchange policy. On a conventional plane it has raised interest offered on treasury notes and squeezed discount facilities to financial institutions.

On a more Latin American plane it decreed that exchange operations can be effected only by filling in a particular form and then failed to distribute more than a minimal quantity of the said forms. On an equally Latin American plane, a black market is trading dollars at premiums of up to 20 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Ass News	13p to 261p	J Sainsbury	12p to 390p
Brent Chem Int	15p to 167p	Standard Tel	13p to 497p
Glaxo Hldgs	12p to 298p	Taylor Woodrow	14p to 545p
Lasmo	17p to 619p	Ultramar	15p to 490p
Paterson Zochnis	12p to 522p	Walmoughs	18p to 203p

Falls

Electrocomps	5p to 658p	Negretti & Zambra	2p to 26p
Harrison Cros	13p to 787p	Ricardo Eng	32p to 553p
Hewitt J	3p to 63p	Sale Tilney	5p to 170p
Joseph L	5p to 243p	Scholes G H	5p to 205p
ML Meyer	4p to 87p		
Myson	4p to 39p		

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.00	1.92	Norway Kr	12.65	12.00
Austria Sch	35.20	33.00	Portugal Esc	129.00	123.00
Belgium Fr	82.25	78.25	South Africa Rd	2.01	1.87
Canada $	2.73	2.64	Spain Pta	195.50	186.50
Denmark Kr	15.50	14.70	Sweden Kr	10.79	10.24
Finland Mkk	9.57	9.07	Switzerland Fr	4.47	4.24
France Fr	11.45	10.95	USA $	2.31	2.40
Germany Dm	4.90	4.65	Yugoslavia Dnr	81.50	76.00
Greece Dr	116.50	110.50			
Hongkong $	12.30	11.70			
Ireland Pd	1.33	1.27			
Italy Lir	2440.00	2330.00			
Japan Yn	496.00	471.00			
Netherlands Gld	5.40	5.14			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Egyptian agriculture calls on ICI's rat-catching expertise

Britain's 'Pied Piper' goes to the Nile delta

One of the largest rat-catching contracts to be awarded since the city fathers of Hamelin employed the Pied Piper has been won by Imperial Chemical Industries, Britain's biggest manufacturing company.

Under a £1m contract with the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture, ICI will supply more than 900 tons of its new "one-feed" rodenticide, Klerat, and provide training for thousands of local workers in its use.

The rodent-control programme covers about one million acres of agricultural land in three Nile delta provinces, Gharbiya, Dakahliya and Damietta. Rats and mice cause widespread damage in the region in citrus and mango orchards, vineyards, cereal, cotton and sugarcane fields and in date palms.

In recent years the rat population in the Nile area has been increasing. Local rodent watchers attribute this in part to the building of the Aswan Dam and the consequent decline in the number of rats drowning in river floods.

Heavy crop losses were being incurred. But Mr John Mitchell, overseas marketing director for ICI's plant protection division, based at Fernhurst, Surrey, explained yesterday that the rats also posed a serious threat to public health.

"Several babies had been bitten by rats, and the Egyptian ministers of health recognized that the rats were becoming a political problem."

ICI won the contract, which is believed to be the largest awarded for a rodent-control programme, against strong competition. West German and Swiss rat-catchers are busy at work in other provinces.

The group attributes its success partly to the efforts of its local office staffed by seven Egyptians, who have been supported by head office staff who visited the Nile on several occasions.

The contract may have been clinched after a highly successful demonstration at a country chicken farm, where several thousand rats and mice were bagged, Mr Mitchell said yesterday.

The first consignment of Klerat left England by ship for Alexandria earlier this month, only two weeks after the contract was won. Several ICI scientists will spend about two months in Egypt explaining the use of the rat-killer to a workforce which Mr Mitchell says will run into thousands. Training films are being prepared and a fully equipped truck will also be sent out to assist in the campaign.

Mr Mitchell added that the new preparation was safe and easy to handle, as well as having a technical edge over rival, foreign rodenticides. However, the local workforce had to be trained to lay the bait in the right place.

ICI explained that control measures had not been entirely successful in the past either because the bait had to be eaten for several days or because it had such an unpleasant taste it deterred rodents from taking a lethal dose. Klerat succeeds because a single dose is sufficient.

Little Klerat is used so far in Britain. But it is a big seller already in Indonesia where it is used to control rats in rice fields, and in the United States, where it is used mainly in New York.

John Huxley

Clearers say they are 'committed' to sticking on 10 per cent pay offer

Strike could close entire bank system

A "master" contingency plan to close down the banking system in England and Wales could come into operation if any one bank is forced to close through the present spate of industrial action.

Settlement of accounts may be affected by the strike proposed by the Banking and Finance Union (Bifu) at the two Barclays Bank computer centres at Gloucester and Wythenshawe tomorrow.

If full-scale pickets are mounted and employees are refused entry, the bank expects internal disruption. The union warns that the dispute could cause a huge backlog of vital paper work.

A special control group, headed by Mr John Quinton, a general manager at Barclays, is operating with the Committee of London Clearing Banks to discuss contingency plans. Mr Quinton maintains that Barclays would close branches if Bifu steps up its campaign.

And if any one bank were forced to close for a prolonged period, the "master" contingency plan would be to close down the banking system in England and Wales. The Bank of England has been informed of the banks view, but no comment was available.

Mr Jan Morison, head of information at the Committee, commented that any part, or the whole banking system, would only be shut down if it was no longer possible to carry on an effective service to customers. The clearing banks were involved in "a totally new ball game" in industrial relations, he said. "They are committed to see the 10 per cent offer through."

A closure of the system would depend both on the duration of stoppages and the type of activity. At the moment it is a nuisance and it seems that Bifu is unclear on how far it wants to go, he said.

What would happen should the banks close down is entirely hypothetical, since it has never happened before in the English banking system.

The first question depends on whether the unions are able to bring the banks to their knees by causing cash to run dry or to prevent the main clearing centres, such as Edmonton, from working.

"The financial implications," said one banker, "could be chaotic if managers and non-union members were unable to operate the system."

But by an ingenious way it might be possible for transactions to be carried out by bills of exchange, endorsed cheques being used throughout the system and a degree of flexibility on credit card limits.

For example, if there were a two-week stoppage, a housewife could pay for food shopping by cheque as normal, but the store would pay its bills using its customers' cheques, and so on throughout the system.

The threat of a total shutdown was discussed briefly at a Stock Exchange committee meeting earlier this week. The consensus was that neither isolated nor concerted action would affect trading as dramatically as supposed.

Mr Thomas Dodd, in charge of settlement accounting (TALISMAN), said that after discussions with the market's bank it was felt that most problems could be averted. The Lloyds strike and tomorrow's threatened action would have almost no impact. But an escalation would mean that settlements between member firms could be carried out by a system of "rolling over".

Margareta Pagano

St. Joe in move to fight Seagram bid

St Joe Mineral Corp has announced a series of moves with which it hopes to fend off a $2,000m (£864.9m) takeover bid by Joseph E. Seagram & Sons. The company said that it would buy back two million of its shares for $60 a share, and reserved the right to buy back up to 10 million shares. It would also exchange five million shares for a new issue of convertible preferred stock.

Seagram offered to buy St Joe, a diversified mineral company, in a surprise move on March 11. At that time the drinks company offered to pay $45 a share for St Joe. St Joe stock was then trading at $28.

China contract off

The Mitsubishi industrial group today became the first Japanese company to terminate a large contract with China as a result of cutbacks in China's ambitious industrialization programme. Mitsubishi is ending a £180m contract for a steel plant in Shanghai.

Turkey loan talks

Turkey and its main Western creditors meet in Paris today to decide how much the country needs in foreign loans to finance its economic revival programme for 1981. Turkey hopes to persuade fellow members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to provide more than the £515m agreed in 1980.

India plea for funds

India has appealed to Mr Robert McNamara, president of the World Bank, for funds to help to increase its oil and fertilizer production to meet growing energy needs.

French textiles report

A French parliamentary commission on France's ailing textiles industry has urged the government to take steps quickly to slow the growth of imports.

Pipe plant contract

Friedrich Kocks, of Düsseldorf, has won an order from Algoma Steel Corporation, Canada, to build a steel pipe plant with an annual capacity of 300,000 tonnes.

Employers challenged to end closed shop deals

By Patricia Tisdall

A challenge to employers to put an immediate end to new closed shop agreements with trade unions was issued by Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, at its annual convention in London yesterday.

The challenge was issued in response to remarks made by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, earlier in the day which made it plain that he wanted to see more initiatives from employers invoking the anti-union provisions in the new Employment Act before he was prepared to legislate further.

Mr Prior, the opening speaker to the institute's 2,000 delegates at the Albert Hall, gave examples of employers who, he said, "were more determined than any trade union to maintain closed shop agreements". One was Sandwell District Council and another was Chrysler, where despite industrial tribunal rulings employees were not reinstated after having been dismissed for refusing to join trade unions.

Referring to the Industrial Relations Act which had been in force between 1971 and 1974, Mr Prior asked: "Why did not more managers use it?" He added: "The fact that it was disregarded by management and largely defeated by unions gave the trade union movement a political power that it never had before".

Mr Prior, who was facing some of his fiercest critics, said he was often told that he had missed his chance to reform trade union legislation. Yet he believed that to have "rushed headlong into legislation" would not have been the best basis to build much-needed reforms. It was necessary to move step-by-step.

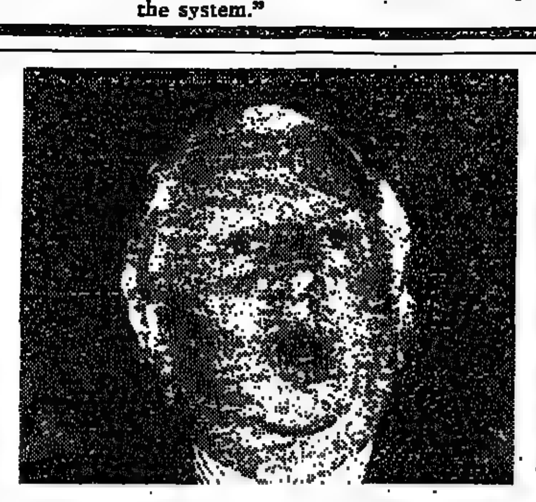
Mr Goldsmith, who received a long ovation for his remarks, said "no longer can we give Jim Prior the excuse to hold back on further legislation because of timid employers. The existence of closed shops is a fundamental infringement to human rights and a disgrace to this country", he said.

A shift in the allocation of European Economic Community resources to manufacturing industry was advocated by Mr Ivor Richard, the EEC Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs.

The situation where 75 per cent of EEC resources is allocated to the Common Agricultural Policy and less than 3 per cent to industry, energy research, and transport cannot be allowed to continue", he said. "It is an ultimate absurdity to pay farmers to produce food which nobody except the Community can buy".

Dr Alan Budd, Economic Forecasting Director of the London Business School, speaking more directly to the Convention's theme of "Leading the Recovery," said that in his view the role of government at present was to do nothing.

"Those who have urged the Government to expand demand—to cut taxes and/or to increase public expenditure—seem to have forgotton what a waste of time those policies were in the past."



Mr Prior: some employers determined to maintain the closed shop.

Mr Richard: industry deserves greater share of EEC funds.

Institute warning to Tory Party waverers

By Our Management Correspondent

A warning against the new Social Democratic Party was given by the Institute of Directors, traditionally the most loyal of Conservative Party supporters, at its annual convention at the Albert Hall in London yesterday.

The warning, issued by Mr Walter Goldsmith, the institute's director general, was a clear indication that business support for the present Government is wavering, and that at least some institute members are considering cancelling their subscriptions to the Tory Party.

Mr Goldsmith's remarks made it clear that he considered that a new centre party was a real threat to the Conservatives.

"This week the Social Democrats are reaching out to businessmen for financial support, and I would beg businessmen to have a care", Mr Goldsmith said.

"They offer pay and price controls, dividend controls: constructive intervention in private industry; a return to playschool economics. Lock up your credit cards is our warning this week."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Matching pay to productivity

From Mr R. G. Opie

Sir, I envy the sense of humour that led you to publish on adjoining pages (March 23) a letter from Professor G. Maynard on the United Kingdom's economic troubles and your report of the trifling 31 per cent increase in the salary of the National Westminster Bank chairman whose photograph was captioned "Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton: strain upon resources".

Professor Maynard wrote that he "can hardly resist the view . . . that the basic problem facing the United Kingdom economy is the refusal of the United Kingdom labour force to accept an own product real wage consistent with the productivity of both labour and capital which working practices and managerial efficiency permit".

Professor Maynard wrote from the University of Reading but he is, of course, also an economic adviser to a large, highly profitable, foreign bank. Would he, therefore, like to account for this splendid example of his own thesis? Does he believe that Mr Leigh-Pemberton has worked 31 per cent harder in 1980 than in 1979? If so, why was he paid £51,822 for idling his way through 1979? And does he believe—indeed, who on earth does believe—that the work of a clearing bank chairman is worth £67,966?

Even more than your sense of humour, sir, I envy the sheer cheek of a bank chairman paying himself 31 per cent more, when his own staff are being offered 10 per cent n so, and when he and Si Jeremy Morse (£78,000 pe annum at Lloyds) are busil lobbying against the tax on th banks' profits.

If "the United Kingdom labour force" is unwilling t pay itself as little as i deserves, where does this ur willingness have its source From observation of their be tors perhaps? Or, mor seriously and more perma nently, how can we eve achieve restraint in demand for money incomes—except b the sort of policy which pr duces both record banking pr fits and 2½ million unemploye —unless everyone is include in this self-restraint?

Yours faithfully,
R. G. OPIE,
New College,
Oxford.

A long-term strategy for biotechnology

From Professor A. T. Bull

Sir, The British Coordinating Committee for Biotechnology (BCCB) was pleased to learn that the Government regards biotechnology as a significant area of industrial opportunity and recognizes its key importance to the world economy. Moreover, we endorse the view expressed in the recently published White Paper, Biotechnology (Cmnd 8177), that industry in the UK has played and continues to play a major role in the exploitation of this rapidly extending technology.

It is our opinion that the weakness of the Government response lies in the fact that it establishes no priorities or strategy for the overall development of biotechnology in the United Kingdom but is inclined to rely on developments occurring when and where the occasions arise. That such initiatives and enterprises can anticipate active support from the Government via the National Research and Development Council and the National Enterprise Board, for example, is clearly stated and the BCCB welcomes Sir Frederick Wood's recent coordinating appointment in this context. However, this committee would argue strongly that a long-term strategy for biotechnology and its industrial exploitation is essential, not least because of the frequently long research and development lead times and heavy investments that are necessary before significant financial returns may be realized. An agreed strategy is especially critical for a country such as the United Kingdom in which resources, both material and financial, are strictly limited.

The Government response must be compared with that of some of the United Kingdom's major industrial competitors in Europe where a more dirigiste influence has clearly been applied. This committee is extremely anxious that the initiative for biotechnological development and innovation does not pass in a substantial way to our European competitors, a situation that, unfortunately, is not difficult to picture if the appropriate steps to consolidate and to extend efforts in the United Kingdom are not taken now.

The BCCB acknowledges and fully accepts the interfacing role that it can play between industry, Government and the academic sector and it will do everything within its means to encourage appropriate collaboration. As part of this function the BCCB is organizing in October a seminar on "A Strategy for Biotechnology in Britain". We are concerned that the traditional success of British industry referred to in the White Paper should continue and that Britain should exploit the strengths of its current position in biotechnology both commercially and by further investment in research. We intend that the Seminar should identify and establish some of the means by which this continued success can be secured.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BULL,
Honorary Secretary, BCCB,
Applied Biology, UWIST,
King Edward VII Avenue,
Cardiff, CF1 3NU.
March 19.

Excessive taxation

From Mr W. M. Williamson

Sir, At one time the tax system in this country was regarded as a method of taking wealth from the rich and transferring it to the poor in an effort to produce a fairer social system. It was unusual, not long ago, for manual workers to pay income tax and if they did it was a modest amount.

It now seems to me that the tax levied on the average wage earner has become excessive. A worker, married with two children, on national average earnings, is now losing 25 pe cent of his income in deduc tions before he can meet hi living costs. Also, when spen ing the remainder of his i come he is subjected to valu added tax and it is estimate that 13 per cent of this spen ing money will be taken u by indirect taxation.

Surely this is monstrousl unfair? How can the averag person save for rainy days, child's education or for wha ever reason he requires a sma capital sum? A fair syste should leave the taxpayer wi enough money to live at reasonable standard befo taxing his income.

I cannot understand wh there is not a public outc about excessive taxes, partic larly as we can all see ho unwisely the taxes are spe by power-drunk politicians.

Yours faithfully,
W. M. WILLIAMSON,
Managing Director,
Portsdown Engineering and Marine Sales,
194a Havant Road, Drayton,
Portsmouth,
Hampshire PO6 2EH.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Competition Act 1980

Notice under section 3 (2) (b)
Sheffield Newspapers Limited

Under section 3 of the Competition Act 1980 the Director General of Fair Trading is to investigate:

(a) the terms upon which Sheffield Newspapers Limited is or has been supplying newspapers to newsagents and whether supply on those terms, or any of them, is a course of conduct which amounts to an anti-competitive practice;

(b) the terms upon which Sheffield Newspapers Limited is or has been securing distribution services from newsagents in relation to the distribution of newspapers and of similar publications which consist wholly or mainly of advertisements and whether the securing of services on those terms, or any of them, is a course of conduct which amounts to an anti-competitive practice;

(c) the criteria of Sheffield Newspapers Limited for determining whether to supply advertising services in relation to the advertising of real property and whether the application of those criteria, or any of them, is a course of conduct which amounts to an anti-competitive practice; and

(d) the terms, including the rates of charge, upon which Sheffield Newspapers Limited is or has been supplying advertising services in relation to the advertising of real property and whether supply on those terms, or any of them, is a course of conduct which amounts to an anti-competitive practice.

The goods and services to which the investigation is to relate are newspapers, the service of distributing newspapers and similar publications which consist wholly or mainly of advertisements and advertising services in relation to the advertising of real property.

If you have any information which you consider would help the Director General please write to:

Office of Fair Trading
Branch CP4
Chancery House
53 Chancery Lane, LONDON WC2A 1SP

Your letter should arrive as soon as possible if it is to be taken into account in the enquiry.

* * * * * * * *

Among matters to be investigated are allegations made to the Director General that newsagents were told that their supplies of the "Morning Telegraph" and "The Star" would be withdrawn if they distributed copies of a free publication "Homes", and other allegations that local estate agents were informed that certain advertisements of houses for sale would not be accepted if they also appeared in "Homes".

Re: PARK DRIVE AND DENTON ROAD, NEWHAVEN—PLOTS 1757, 1758, 1759, 1762 and 1763.

Application is being made by PATRICK COWLEY THOMAS as Attorney for DOROTHY RAY HILTON for payment out of Court of all monies representing compensation paid by the Newhaven Urban District Council on their compulsory purchase of the above Plots of land numbered 1, 2 and 3 on the deposited Plan. Persons claiming an interest in the above Plots of land should send particulars of their claims to the said Patrick Cowley Thomas, 19 High Street, Newhaven, East Sussex, within 28 days from the publication of this advertisement.

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968

The Church Commissioners have prepared a fresh DRAFT REDUNDANCY SCHEME providing for appropriating the redundant church of Writhlington Saint Mary Magdalene (Bath and Wells diocese), and part of the churchyard for residential use; and a draft amending redundancy scheme empowering the Commissioners to sell the redundant church of Turnerspuddle Holy Trinity (Salisbury diocese) for use as a monument and for occasional community use. Copies of the draft schemes can be obtained from the Commissioners at 1 Millbank, London, SW1P 3JZ.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CANADA
NOTICE TO PATRICIA JEAN FOSTER

Take notice that a PETITION for a Decree of Divorce has been presented to the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories by your husband, David Hilton Foster, on the grounds of having lived separate and apart for three years.

And, that it has been ordered that service on you of the Petition for Divorce be effected by this advertisement. If you desire to defend the said Petition, you must within 30 days from the date of this advertisement cause to be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court, either an Answer or a Demand that Notice of any application to be made in the action be given to you; and that also within the same time a copy of your Answer or Demand be served on the Petitioner whose address for service is c/o BOYD & TANCOCK, Barristers & Solicitors, P.O. Box 2910, Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2R2, Canada.

And further take notice that in default of your filing and serving such Answer or Demand within the time prescribed above, a Decree of Divorce may be granted without further notice to you.

Dated the 11th day of March, A.D. 1981 at the City of Yellowknife, in the Northwest Territories, Canada.

X. MERCREDI,
Clerk of the Supreme Court

1980 Folio 655
In the High Court of Justice Queen's Bench Division, Admiralty Court ship "ELENI V".

Notice is hereby given to all persons with claims against THE UNITED KINGDOM MUTUAL STEAMSHIP ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION (BERMUDA) Limited the insurers of the ship "Eleni V" in respect of the discharge or escape of part of a cargo of persistent oil from the "Eleni V" in the month of May, 1978 that in the Admiralty Action in the High Court of Justice, 1980 Folio 655, between the said United Kingdom Mutual Steamship Assurance Association (Bermuda) Limited, Plaintiffs and The Great Yarmouth Borough Council and others, Defendants, a decree was made on the 6th March, 1981, pursuant to section 12 of the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act, 1971, limiting the liability of the Plaintiffs to damages in respect of the said discharge or escape of persistent oil to £919,820.71 with interest and allowing until the 1st July, 1981, for the filing of claims and (to those persons who are entitled and desire to apply to set aside the decree) for acknowledging the issue of the Writ in the said action and taking out summonses to set the decree aside.

INCE & COMPANY
Knollys House,
11, Byward Street
London EC3R 5EN
Solicitors for the said United Kingdom Mutual Steamship Assurance Association (Bermuda) Limited.

Re: BIRKETT MOTORS Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before Friday, 1st May, 1981 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned Bernard Phillips, F.C.A. of Bernard Phillips & Co., New Cavendish House, 18 Maltravers Street, London, WC2R 3EU, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1981.

BERNARD PHILLIPS,
FCA, Liquidator.

This notice is purely formal and according to available figures all creditors claims have been or will be paid in full.

LEGAL NOTICES

SAGEDELL LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company are required, on or before 20th April, 1981, to send their names and addresses with particulars of their debts (if any) to the undersigned, Malcolm John Gee, 100 Chalk Farm Road, London NW1, the liquidator of the said company, and, if so required, by notice in writing by the said liquidator or by their solicitors or personally to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as they shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debt is proved.

MALCOLM J. GEE
Liquidator

DATED: 18th March 1981.

Re: E. H. McLAREN & CO. LIMITED and THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the Russell Hotel, Russell Square, London WC1 5BE on Thursday, the 2nd day of April 1981 at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon for the purposes mentioned in Sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.

Dated this 18th day of March, 1981.

B. L. LONGCROFT.
Director.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

DISPOSABLE PRODUCTS SALES WILL CONTINUE TO RISE IN 1981 AND BEYOND

A number of extremely valuable Distributorships are available in the UK for WORLD FAMOUS PRODUCTS CONSTANTLY IN DEMAND—(7 out of 10 people use one every day).

PLEASANT AND PROFITABLE OUTLETS
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

All Distributors have a guaranteed area and a continuous programme of support including financing for expansion. Minimum investment £3,000. If you wish to develop a highly profitable business with unlimited potential,

write or telephone—
MR. WHITLEY,
DEPT. ULS.,
EDGBASTON HOUSE,
3 DUCHESS PLACE, HAGLEY ROAD, BIRMINGHAM B16 8NH.
Telephone 021-455 9661
24hr Answering Service

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

TELEX, telephone answering and typing services including word processing. Available 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week.—Ring 01-903 6435 for brochure details.

COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of Quebec Central Railway Company will be held at the Offices of Canadian Pacific [illegible] Station, Montreal, Canada, on Wednesday, the 15th day of April, 1981, at the hour of 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon for presentation of the financial statements, the election of two directors to represent the Security Holders of the Company until the next Annual General Meeting of the Company; the appointment of the auditor of the Company; to consider and if thought fit to approve By-law No. 24, the purpose of which is to change the wording on the corporate seal of the Company to include the French form of the Company name, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

By order of the board.
R. L. PARTRIDGE
Secretary

Montreal, Quebec, February 6, 1981.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

AGENTS REQUIRED
PVC EXTRUSIONS

Agents required in SOUTH WEST ENGLAND including LONDON, MIDLANDS, SCOTLAND & WALES to sell PVC Extrusions to Builders Merchants & DIY shops. Salary + commission or commission only basis.

Interested?
Phone 0001 801104
Interviews to be held in England.

TRANSFER BOOKS

JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the TRANSFER BOOKS of this Company's 5% and 7½% Cumulative Preference Stocks WILL BE CLOSED on 16 April 1981 for the preparation of the warrants for the current half-year's dividends.

S. E. DICKINSON,
Secretary.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT—SESSION 1980-81
GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (MONEY)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Greater London Council (in this notice called "the Council") intend, in accordance with the provisions of the London Government Act, 1963, as amended by the Local Government, Planning and Land Act, 1980, to apply to Parliament in the present Session for leave to bring in a BILL (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

To regulate the prescribed expenditure of, and expenditure on lending to other persons by, the Council, and expenditure by the London Transport Executive and their wholly-owned subsidiaries which is to be treated for certain purposes of the said Act of 1963 as prescribed expenditure of the Council, during the financial period from 1st April, 1981, to 30th September, 1982.

To define the purposes for which, and the extent to which, the Council may, during the said period, expend money, or are to be treated as having expended money, by way of prescribed expenditure.

To define the persons to whom, and the extent to which, the Council may, during the said period, lend money.

On and after the first day on which the House of Commons sits after Easter a copy of the Bill may be inspected, and copies thereof may be obtained at the price of fifty pence each, at the offices of the undersigned.

DATED this 17th day of March, 1981.

J. R. FITZPATRICK,
20 Albert Embankment,
London, SE1 7SS.
Solicitor and Parliamentary Officer, Greater London Council (7307).
DYSON, BELL & CO.,
15 Great College Street,
Westminster,
London, SW1P 3RX.
Parliamentary Agents.

EDUCATIONAL

ETUDIEZ LE FRANCAIS EN VACANCES OU VIVEZ EN FAMILLE

Are you 13 years to 20 years? Come with us on a two-week educational stay in France at Easter or in the summer. Stay with a French family and have lessons, excursions and leisure activities for £195 plus travel. We can also arrange a stay en famille for £79 for one week, £135 for two weeks plus travel. Centres at Chartres, Besancon, Rouen and Versailles. Phone or write for brochure: OSFB, 22 The Grove, Hill Head, Fareham, Hampshire PO14 PC, (03295) 4848 (24-hour answering service).

EDUCATIONAL

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

Hampstead College requires graduate aged 30-35 with experience of educational administration including timetabling. An interest and knowledge of the latest technology in the secretarial and business fields is essential. Career prospects. Salary negotiable.

Applications including full curriculum vitae and the names of two referees to the Director of Training, St Godric's College, 2 Arkwright Road, London NW3 6AD. Tel. 01-435 9831.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

GOVERNESS/TEACHER required urgently for six- and ten-year-old in Saudi Arabia, preferably with knowledge of French. Aged 30+. Salary around £100 p.w. tax free. —Telephone: 727 9185.

MATURE GIRL, 21 plus, experienced with children, to care for boys aged 7 and 3½ in large happy W.14 flat, now till mid-July. Able to take sole charge in mother's absence. Driving licence an advantage. Suit ex-teacher. 01-603 2624.

WILLING self starting couple required immediately for informal, hectic American household, 30 miles north west of London. Man to tend large grounds including lawns, herbacious gardens, greenhouses and vegetable plots. Woman to assist with household administration, the supervision of two teenage girls and to be a competent vegetarian cook. 2 miles from nearest town so car is essential. Good salary and rent free centrally heated, 3 bedroom cottage. Please write with fullest details and references. Merlin Walbers, North Lodge, Little Pednor, Chesham, Bucks.

MATURE housekeeper mothers help required in Highgate village for 6 day week. Must be someone who loves and enjoys babies. Baby girl is 9 months old. Successful applicant will be required for babysitting once or twice a week. A substantial part of the time will be spent looking after the baby during the day also. Duties will include normal housekeeping plus occasional light cooking and shopping. Salary neg. Refs. essential. Tel. 340 1910.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

COOK
SCOTLAND

Wanted for super shooting/fishing lodge in the Highlands from
MAY-SEPTEMBER
Must be very experienced and able to cater up to a very high standard.
Please ring Sarah Underwood on 493 5787
Gordon Yates Ltd.
(Staff Consultancy),
35 Old Bond Street,
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The City calls for action on pensions

Last year's Wilson Committee report on the City did one thing, if it did nothing else. It made a wider public aware of the fact that over the past decade pension funds have become major financial institutions in their *own right*. It also drew attention to the fact that this metamorphosis had in no way been matched by equivalent changes in the statutory framework within which they operate.

Most pension funds operate in a general way subject to basic trust law. The Occupational Pensions Board, set up under the 1973 Social Security Act, has certain executive and advisory functions, particularly in relation to funds that are "contracted out" of the state pension scheme. But the fact is that there is no basic framework of up to date supervisory legislation within which pension funds should operate.

Wilson proposed that there should be such a framework. The present Government, with the understandable tendency of all governments that it is better to let sleeping dogs lie, decided that it would not take up the suggestion. The declared hope was that "best practice" would spread fast enough to make legislation unnecessary.

Now the City Capital Markets Committee has said quite rightly that such passive optimism will not do. Its proposals published today are based on the clear understanding that, if enlightened self-regulation in the City is to survive, it must be constantly alert and must accept that at the margin there is a necessary minimum place for statute in addition.

For most of the biggest pension funds the proposals have already been implemented—a requirement for a minimum level of disclosure of information to members and the right to 50 per cent representation by employees amongst the trustees of pension funds.

But the problems of self-regulation are seldom with the leading operators in a market. In the interests of the orderly development of the pension fund sector in the next ten years the Government should put limited legislation of the kind suggested onto the statute book. Otherwise the chances are that at some point in the future we shall face much farther-reaching change in response to crisis or scandal.

Lasmo

In a new tax regime

Yesterday's 17p rise in Lasmo's shares to 619p had more to do with the latest find in the "T" Block than doubled profits of £47m and earnings up from 12.7p to 30p a share.

Nevertheless the results are still something of a milestone. Lasmo has paid off its accumulated deficit and is promising a first dividend at the interim stage while its strong cash flow of £68m in 1980—fuelled by the stake in Ninian which is nearly at peak production—has allowed it to repay all but



Mr Geoffrey Searle, chairman of London & Scottish Marine Oil.

£10m of the bank borrowings taken for the development of Ninian.

The next stage for Lasmo is the development of the other proven acreage where it is involved—the "T" Block which seems to be slipping behind and the South Ninian and Andrew areas which are likely to proceed faster.

Further ahead still, there are the hopes inherent in Lasmo's seventh round allocations and its exploration programme which should see it participating in one tenth of all exploration and appraisal wells drilled on the United Kingdom continental shelf this year.

Lasmo's long-term potential is undeniable, but the outlook for the shares in the short-term is confused by the North Sea tax regime.

The first tranche of the new special petroleum duty should be covered by Lasmo's increased share in Ninian which has been adjusted from 7.8 to 9.3 per cent. But the cash position is likely to become tighter as petroleum revenue tax payments build up and Lasmo starts paying out cash for developing other fields. However the significance to the market of the recent tax changes is that estimates of Lasmo's asset value now differ wildly which explains why one major stockbroker was selling the shares yesterday while another exponent of the sector was busy buying.

Smith & Nephew

Benefits of the reorganization

During the last two years Smith & Nephew has tried to improve return on capital by getting rid of loss-makers (including Gala) and redeploying assets in faster growing areas.

The benefits may start to show through this year but in any case the group has again shown the resilience of its medical, personal hygiene and toiletries activities to the recession with profits a tenth higher at £24.3m on sales 13 per cent better from ongoing operations.

That, combined with an expected rise of 10 per cent in the dividend to 5.6p a share gross; a 1-for-8 scrip and a confident forecast for the current year, lifted the shares 3½p to a new 1980-81 "high" of 110½p.

On trading it is largely a matter of swings and roundabouts; medical and health care, personal hygiene and toiletries businesses having done well enough to offset setbacks in textiles and plastics and tapes. But the improvement at the operational level was more than offset by the more than 40 per cent jump in interest charges to £6m although most of that came in the first half arising mainly from the Anchor acquisition.

It has been left to British Tissues to push profits onto a higher level with the doubling of the group's stake worth £2.4m pretax and accounting for three-fifths of the associates increase.

The balance sheet is now stronger. Borrowings of £38m are down to 42 per cent of shareholders' funds, not much higher than before the Anchor acquisition, although the group's rating—selling at around 12 earnings and yielding 5.1 per cent—is a tempting base from which to raise equity funds particularly as profits should rise at least another 10 per cent this year.

● *In stark contrast to the composite insurers all seems to be peace and prosperity for the life sector, especially for pure life groups like Equity & Law Life.*

After another year of strong growth—new annual premiums up 32 per cent to £22.1m—Equity & Law has raised its dividends by 18 per cent to 18.57p gross. Expectations had been for a rise of around 14 per cent after last year's 36 per cent increase, and, indeed, net payments of 13p are fractionally uncovered by the latest 12.4p-a-share surplus. But the group still has undistributed funds created during the years of dividend restraint; enough in fact to add a further ½p a share to the distributable surplus next year.

The market sees the point: Equity & Law's shares have increased by four-fifths—over 40 per cent against the market—since the last results. Yesterday's 4p rise to a new high of 360p provides a yield of only 5.2 per cent and shows how the whole sector has advanced since the mid-1970s, when dividend controls and fears about the effects of inflation on savings ratios (not to mention nationalization), rattled investors' confidence.

With further strong dividend growth in prospect further relative strength looks assured, with the only constraints likely to be long-term fears about Government interference and a swing-back to confidence in industrial shares—offering higher returns—as recession bottoms out.

Peter Norman

Recession saps German confidence

West Germany is making heavy weather of the recession. Since re-election last October Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's coalition government has reacted poorly in the face of the country's economic difficulties.

The Federal Bank in Frankfurt has assumed the dominant role in economic policy-making — itself a symptom of lack of leadership from Bonn. Industrialists and bankers are not only becoming increasingly gloomy about their own businesses but are suffering from a slump in confidence about the country's economic future as a whole.

Yet, by all objective criteria, West Germany still appears to be Europe's healthiest economy. Unemployment may have topped 1.3 million at the end of January, but this was still well below the levels in the much smaller economies of Britain or France. According to the latest estimates from the European Commission, West Germany should experience an unemployment rate of no more than 4.4 per cent on average this year, compared with 7.4 per cent for the EEC as a whole.

In the battle against inflation Germany is performing better than its industrial rivals. The year on year cost of living increase of 5.5 per cent in February may have disturbed many Germans, but it was less than half the EEC average and better even than the level of inflation in Switzerland.

Although earlier forecasts of economic growth this year have tended to be wide of the mark, the latest Commission prediction of a 0.7 per cent drop in gross domestic product is only marginally worse than the average 0.6 per cent fall in gdp forecast for the entire European Community this year.

A case can even be made for Germany's huge current account balance of payments deficit, which in all probability will reach last year's level of 28,000m Deutschemarks (about £5,800m) again this year. Even though this will be the largest deficit of any nation in the world, it should represent no more than 1.6 per cent of gross domestic product and so be no worse than the EEC average this year.

But statistics such as these cannot offset the gloom at present emanating from Frankfurt and Bonn.

Germany has been suffering from a leadership crisis since last autumn. This has coincided with a realisation that the country's economic structure has been changing—and for the worse—over several years.

Oil imports

The oil crisis, which was triggered by the Iranian revolution, exposed a major deterioration in the structure of Germany's economy and balance of payments. The doubling of oil prices lifted the share of oil in Germany's import bill last year to nearly one fifth—DM64,000m out of total imports worth DM340,000m.

The immediate effect of this change was to push the current account balance of payments, which had been in healthy surplus through most of the 1970s, from a deficit of DM10,000m in 1979 to one of DM28,000m last year.

That deficit is not going to disappear quickly. It reflects a failure to reduce dependence on imported oil after the first oil crisis of 1973 and a growing reliance throughout the 1970s on imports of manufactured goods at a time when Germany's trading rivals were building up their export industries to pose a more effective challenge on world markets.

It also reflects the extraordinary boom in foreign travel which now means that one or more holidays abroad each year is normal for many West German families.

These changes began to show through last year as large monthly deficits on the balance of payments and downward pressure on the mark. This happened just as the country was in the throes of an election campaign in which the coalition which was eventually victorious capitalised on its reputation for running the economy and the supposed strength of the mark against other world currencies.

The nature of the campaign has probably limited Herr Schmidt's scope for action on the economy since October. West Germany is a comfortable society, which prefers reassurance to challenge and is probably rather naive politically, in that people expect politicians to tell them the truth.

Germany's long history as a surplus country has left both the population and the government ill-prepared to treat a balance of payments deficit as a symptom of economic difficulty. It has been an unwelcome experience for both the finance ministry and the Federal Bank to have to cope with pressure to devalue the national currency and to find themselves no longer in full control of the country's economic policy.

The Federal Bank's decision last month to lift interest rates in support of the mark shows that the authorities in Frankfurt have adjusted to the new conditions. But the politicians have seemed less willing to recognize the problem for what it is, preferring, as Herr Schmidt made clear at the EEC summit in Maastricht this week to opt for concerted action with the United States for a progressive reduction in international interest rates—a solution which may seem politically appealing but is fraught with practical difficulties.

For the government, and in particular the Social Democrat Party, the higher interest rates are a bitter blow that is bound to restrict still further the hopes for a recovery in the economy. But the Federal Bank's action was in a sense inevitable in the absence of decisions to tackle the structural problems that have been undermining the economy at its roots for several years.

Nuclear power

Dependence on imported oil is Germany's major economic weakness. But since the election the Social Democrats have been hopelessly divided on the issue of nuclear power and the Chancellor has been unwilling or unable to impose his preference for a limited expansion of nuclear energy generation.

Immediately after the election the government laid great stress on its intention to cut back public borrowing, but by the beginning of this year its target was for a public sector borrowing requirement of between DM55,000m and DM59,000m in 1981, well above last year's DM53,000m level. The latest estimate is for DM60,000m to DM65,000m.

Error and indecision have characterized cabinet activity outside the narrowly economic sphere.

Herr Hans Apel, the Defence Minister, who was once seen as a possible successor to Herr Schmidt, has had his position seriously weakened through the disclosure that the cost of the Tornado military aircraft project has overrun by large margins. The Social Democrat and Free Democrat coalition partners have been divided over the future of worker co-determination in Germany.

The government is meanwhile still having problems in drawing up a coherent approach to the new Reagan Administration in the United States.

Herr Schmidt made his reputation as a man who gets things done. This talent has eluded him since the election and the result has been a fall in business confidence.

In other countries a similar lack of leadership might not matter too greatly. But after more or less 30 years of unbroken growth it is an unpleasant shock for the Germans to learn that they, too, can suffer from economic problems.

In detail, the country's position might appear to be more favourable than that of any other member of the EEC, but by their very novelty, Germany's economic problems tend to sap confidence more than would be the case in the more battered and bloodied economies of Britain and the United States.

Bitter medicine at British Airways

During the seven months since last August British Airways has recruited only 50 new people to its ranks, which now number nearly 53,000. This is a measure of the chill economic wind which is sweeping the state airline's corridors.

In 1979 staff numbers at BA were a grossly overweight 58,600. Since then 6,000 have departed, all voluntarily, and Mr Roy Watts, deputy chairman and chief executive, says that he plans to get the number down to 50,000 by March next year. Eventually, he would like to see the figure cut to 40,000.

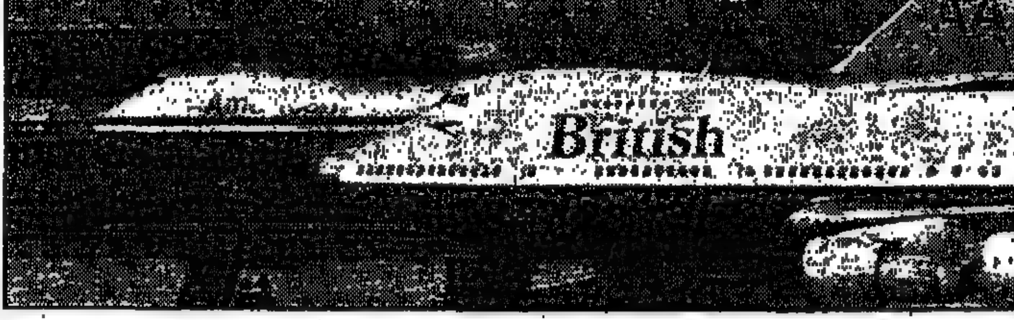
"We are overstaffed", says Mr Watts. "The only thing I ask is that it is recognized that we know it and that we are trying to do something about it".

The chief executive is unwilling to discuss anything but voluntary redundancies to achieve the sort of figure he has in mind, but the rank and file of British Airways wonder whether it will be possible to make the sort of job savings that BA needs to make it truly competitive with its big American competitors without some element of compulsion.

The possibility has been floated in the airline's internal magazine for cabin crew. In one recent edition, the editor wrote: "I have found it disturbing that many of our junior crew members still do not believe that the airline is in trouble.

"Some suspect all that has been said over the past year through various media, is a management ploy to hoodwink the workforce with a view to keeping pay increases to an absolute minimum. They do not believe that the company is in such a serious cash-flow situation that they have, on occasions, come close to not being paid their salaries.

"I suppose that is because the airline isn't making staff redundant (at the time of writing) and crew members are an







A British Airways 747 jumbo on the tarmac at Kennedy Airport, New York: the airline's long-distance services attracted 11 per cent fewer customers in February compared with the same period in 1980. And Mr Howard Phelps (right), BA's operational troubleshooter keeps track of flight movements from his Woking, Surrey home during off-duty hours.

Photograph (right) by John Manning

absent workforce . . . it is difficult to appreciate the seriousness of a situation when all so one's particular sphere of operation seems to be going along normally.

"But surely stewards and stewardesses have seen the empty seats . . ."

The empty seats figured in Mr Watts's most recent report to the board. In February, traditionally a bad month for every airline, there was a "heavy loss", with long-distance services 11 per cent down on the same period of 1980 and 3 per cent fewer passengers being carried in and out of the two main London airports.

A world travel recession and increased costs, particularly for fuel, are at the root of BA's troubles. Its board has already agreed that it will show a loss of £100m for the financial year which ends this month, but the figure could be higher still. High staff numbers resulting in lower productivity than among many of its competitors make it more difficult for the airline to climb out of the sort of trough into which it has plunged.

Great efforts are being made to pull up the corporation by its bootstraps. Mr Howard Phelps, director of operations, says that the airline's punctuality record is better than it has ever been. This is part of BA's drive to scoop back lost passengers from competitors. Installing new and more comfortable seating in first and club classes on long-haul airliners is another part of this drive.

Mr Phelps labours to make the airline run on time, and the depleted workforce is labouring hard too. According to graphs which Mr Phelps produces, 87 per cent of BA's short-haul flights departed Heathrow Airport within 15 minutes of the scheduled time in February. The low in the 1980-81 financial year was 68 per cent, in April, 1980.

Long-distance flights departing within 15 minutes of schedule hit a peak of 75 per cent in February. The lowest point was 56 per cent in October last year.

Short-haul punctuality is now equalling the performance of 1974, considered to have been the airline's best year in recent times. In both long and short-haul there has been an immense improvement over the disastrous year of 1979 when short-haul departure time-keeping struck a low point of only 50 per cent and long-haul went as low as 25 per cent.

It was in July, 1979, that Mr Phelps was switched from his job as BA's personnel director to become operational troubleshooter. He found it, "not a very good airline". There were a lot of strikes and delays in air traffic. That was also the year in which wing cracks were found in Tridents.

As Trident airliners formed the foundation of British Airways' short and medium-distance fleet, punctuality was suffering as the cracking was being engineered out.

But there were other problems. Mr Phelps found that "getting the big ships away on time was seen by some as something that did not matter as much as short-haul, because on a 10-hour Boeing 747 flight it was always possible to advance the throttles."

"I found a lot of people who did not work for a punctual airline and were not sure how important it was."

He ordered a video film called *The unforgiving minute* to show to staff. It was, he said, "a horror story", with real-life candid camera shots of British Airways staff being harassed by passengers who were "really socking it to them".

He made people accountable for getting airliners away on time, and if they did not deliver, "hauled them in". Things improved gradually, but Mr Phelps still recalls with a shudder a night when four 747s had to stay overnight at Heathrow because they were not ready to depart before the noise curfew closed the airport.

A daily meeting was established. At this, Mr Phelps and his team "take the operation apart". A video display unit linked to the BA computer sits in the corner of his office keeping track of flights throughout the world.

A similar unit is installed in his home to enable him to monitor performance in off-duty hours.

Two big problems remain, Mr Phelps says. Air traffic control delays continue to be the biggest single irritant, costing the airline £7m a year in wasted fuel. The other was continuing delays in luggage retrieval.

"In Chinese terms, 1981 is the year of the bag as far as BA is concerned.

"We are getting 85 per cent of the bags within 25 minutes in terminal three at Heathrow and 100 per cent within 65 minutes, and in terminal one, operated almost entirely by us, we are getting bags ready for picking up within 20 minutes of the aircraft stopping almost 90 per cent of the time.

"But we remain unsatisfied and our objective must continue to be that bags arrive at the same time as the passengers enter the retrieval hall."

Arthur Reed

Business Diary: The T & G, not to be written off

Moss Evans is the general secretary of Britain's biggest trade union, the Transport and General Workers', which is seen by some as bringing about the downfall of the Callaghan government as the miners did that of Edward Heath.

Evans, however, has another and lesser-known role, that of literary patron, in which guise he made an appearance yesterday at the T & G headquarters in Westminster—opposite the Central Office of the Tories *some credit* him with bringing to power.

Evans has provided a foreword and the T & G the funds for a new children's book,



What is a union, and am I really in one? Althea Braithwaite, authoress and publisher.

What is a union? published yesterday at 70p (paperback) and £1.85 (between hard covers) by the independent (and non-unionized) house, Dinosaur.

"Unions", Evans said yesterday "have got to modernize and take our views to the public to counteract the media's views."

The T & G, he said, had approached Dinosaur, and the book's author, managing editor Althea Braithwaite, after the success of an earlier Dinosaur joint venture with the Industrial Society, *A visit to the factory*.

"This is the first children's book, ever, about unions in Great Britain", he went on. The union is taking 10,000 of the books, which guarantees that the publishers will break even, although so will the T & G, which is sending copies and order forms to each of its multitudinous branches.

This is the second publishing venture within a month for the T & G and may not be the last.

Earlier this month the union brought out a specially-commissioned biography of its founding father, Ernest Bevin, though again looking outside the movement, for a writer, Mark Stephens, a former Engineering *Employers Federation employee*.

Of *What is a union*, which is meant for seven-year-olds and up, Evans said: "We as trade union officials do a lot of speaking at schools, especially at secondary schools—maybe there is a market for a book, perhaps a little up the scale from this one."

There is a passage in this tiny, 24-page book, which says of unions: "They also tell their members what the Government is doing, and how this affects everyone."

How, I asked Evans, was what the Government is doing affecting the T & G? There was, he said "a tremendous effect. We've lost 9 per cent of our members, out of two million, through unemployment."

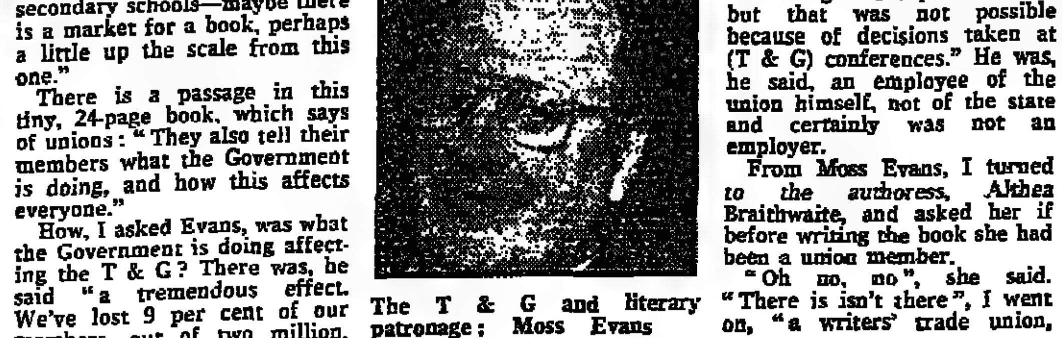
How, then, I went on, did the members of the T & G affect the voters after the winter of discontent into voting in this Government?



Photographs by Jonathan Player

Catch 'em young: nine-month-old Matthew Wilson with his mother Penny at Transport House yesterday.





The T & G and literary patronage: Moss Evans

"The problem really is that we didn't wish anybody on anybody", he said. "When people go into the polling booth, they make their own decisions.

"Experts, like yourself (who, me?) say if we had accepted Mr Callaghan's 5 per cent . . . but that was not possible because of decisions taken at (T & G) conferences." He was, he said, an employee of the union himself, not of the state and certainly was not an employer.

From Moss Evans, I turned to the authoress, Althea Braithwaite, and asked her if before writing the book she had been a union member.

"Oh no, no", she said. "There is isn't there?", I went on, "a writers' trade union, affiliated to the TUC—The Writers' Guild." "Oh, yes", said the authoress, "I'm a member of that."

According to the last TUC statistical statement, the guild has 1,623 members, who paid affiliation fees of £373.29. They have some way to go, both in terms of size and—if Althea Braithwaite is anything to go by—in awareness, to catch up on the T & G, which last year paid £480,000.

What is a union? is designed for children of seven or thereabouts, but *the youngest person* I saw at yesterday's meeting was Matthew Wilson, 10 months next week, who had come with his mother Penny, who was signing people in.

"I don't usually work Tuesdays", she said, "and I couldn't get anybody to look after him." Master Wilson is not giving public statements yet, but he did give me a big smile, and quite made the event for me.

Other people who might have been expected to turn up, did not. Jenny Marshall, the book's publicist, told me: "We haven't had a single Tory we invited come."

Nodding towards the other side of Smith Square, she said: "The bookshop at Tory Central Office there didn't even reply to the invitation."

Reader Alan Wells of Finchley, north London, rang me yesterday to say that he had seen at his local Merit supermarket a bag of lawn peat marked "Reduced. £1.95. Soiled".

Ross Davies

Stock markets

Wall Street rally inspires equities

Prices raced ahead yesterday as equities responded to the strong overnight performance on Wall Street. Dealers reported renewed demand for most of the big names, but the continued shortage of stock in many sectors exaggerated price movements.

Jobbers, despite the tough time they have had recently, still believe the market has some way to go but are cautious in the long run. Sentiment was further boosted by optimistic remarks about the recession from Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury. As a result fears about the escalating civil servants dispute and the latest unemployment figures were again discounted for the time being.

Building shares were again a notable feature but stock was in short supply. Electricals recovered from Monday's setback and gold shares saw another firm session on the back of the bullion price, up $18 at $540.50 an ounce.

Business after hours again took off with Wall Street showing a seven-point lead after the first hour of trading. So the *FT* Index, which had risen 4.7 at 3 pm closed 10.5 higher at 511.7, a rise on the account so far of 34.5.

Government securities looked neglected with prices showing little movement ahead of Friday's launch of the new government indexed - linked stock.

Jobbers said the market was displaying a slightly overbought look but there were few fears that the new stock would prove unpopular. By the close prices in longs were generally unchanged on the day while in shorts falls extended to around £1/16.

Goode Durrant & Murray reached a new high of 38p yesterday on the back of rumours that a 50p a share bid was on the way for the finance and property development group. But Mr Lionel Robinson, chairman, said there was no substance behind the speculation.

Leading industrials enjoyed a better time with after hours business finding solid support for such issues as Glaxo, 12p higher at 298p ahead of figures next month, and Beecham, 5p stronger at 177p. Overseas buyers again came in for Dunlop, 3p firmer at 68p as an estimated 500,000 shares were picked up. ICI rose 2p to 238p, Unilever 8p to 503p, Hawker Siddeley 4p to 300p, GKN 7p to 147p and Lucas Industries 2p to 168p, while Bowater leapt 12p to 230p in consideration of its recent disposal news.

News of a major find by Phillips Petroleum and full-year figures provided Lasmo with a hectic time. The shares opened at 610p on news of the find, in which it has a stake, and rallied to 630p after the figures. But the omission of an interim dividend saw the shares retreat to 615p before closing at 619p, a net rise on the day of 17p.

Elsewhere in oils, the strong performance on Wall Street resulted in increased demand for most of the majors. BP rallied 6p to 384p, Shell 2p to 392p, Tricentrol 2p to 298p and Burmah 3p to 171p. Ultramar was wanted after hours, climbing 15p to 390p on the back of a brokers circular, while Imperial Continental Gas, also with a stake in the "T" block, hardened 10p to 228p.

Better than expected figures lifted Smith & Nephew 3½p to a new high of 110½p with similar performances helping Watmoughs 18p to 203p and Johnson Group Cleaners 6p to 186p. A free share handout sweetened Brent Chemicals International's profits contraction with the shares rebounding 14p to 167p. Dealers showed their approval for trading statements from United Newspapers, up 2p at 195p, British Car Auction, up 1p at 77p and Stothert & Pitt, 5p stronger at 115p. However, the downturn at Ricardo Engineering wiped 32p from the shares at 553p and the loss and a passed dividend left Bridport-Gundry 3p lower at 20p.

Further reflection on recent figures added 12p to Paterson Zochonis at 522p and 3p to Cattle's Holdings at 31p. In leisure Horizon Travel, which reported on Monday, expanded 11p to 236p with Saga Holidays, reporting tomorrow, rose 8p to 288p. Ladbroke, reporting next month, firmed 4p to 289p.

Wolverhampton Steam Laundry raced ahead 4p to 32p as Concourt, a private company, bought a 20 per cent stake. Hanson Trust celebrated the strength of Wall Street with a 10p rise at 262p and speculative attention lifted Wood Hall Trust 10p to 140p, Rotaprint 3p to 14p, Rotork 4p to 62p and Longton Industrial 5p to 59p. But nervous offerings wiped 8p from Sale Tilney at 170p, while Myson Group fell 4p to 39p and J. Hewitt 3p to 63p.

British Aerospace closed 7p higher at 187p after comment but Negretti & Zambra slipped 2p to 26p.

On the bid front reports that the Monopolies Commission was about to publish its long-awaited report later today pushed British Sugar up 2p to 265p and S. & W. Berisford 2p to 116p. Still awaiting further developments, Savoy 'A' closed unchanged at 172p as Trusthouse Forte edged ahead 4p to 214p.

Renewed demand for builders and stock shortages lifted Blue Circle 10p to 404p, Redland 4p to 176p, BPB 8p to 278p, Taylor Woodrow 14p to 545p and J. Jarvis 5p to 203p. Only Montague L. Meyer resisted the trend, sliding 4p to 87p.

The food and drink sectors also came under the spotlight with Arthur Bell, reporting tomorrow, 4p higher at 170p, Bass up 3p to 214p and Greenall Whitley 5p better at 127p.

Equity turnover on March 23 was £137,546m (22,095 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Cons Gold, Horizon Travel, RTZ, De Beers, Lasmo, BSR, Midland, GEC and Plessey.

Traded options: Total contracts amounted to only 919 of which Grand Met accounted for 163.

Traditional options saw calls made in Burmah at 15½p, Moben at 3p and Wm Press at 3½p.

Latest results

Int or Fin Company	£m Sales	£m Profits	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Brent Chemicals (F)	32.1(28.7)	2.8(3.0)	7.7(8.9)	2.25(1.99)	24/4	3.0(2.56)
Bridport Gundry (I)	6.2(7.1)	0.3†(0.3)	—(—)	—(0.99)	—	—(—)
British Car (I)	103.7(83.9)	1.2(1.1)	—(—)	1.5(1.0)	31/7	—(2.76)
Equity & Law (F)	—(—)	—(—)	12.4(10.4)	9(7)	—	13(11)
Johnson Group (F)	41.8(35.2)	4.04(4.04)	26.41(27.83)	5.0(4.4)	9/4	7.0(6.4)
Jove Inv (F)	—(—)	0.73*(0.68*)	4.51(4.27)	2.3(—)	29/5	4.3(4.0)
Keep Inv (F)	—(—)	0.52*(—)	0.52(—)	0.24(—)	15.5	0.39(—)
Lasmo (F)	103(63)	47.3(23.4)	30.0(12.7)	Nil(Nil)	—	Nil(Nil)
Ldn Shop (I)	—(—)	0.45(0.25)	2.38(1.56)	1.0(0.95)	30/4	—(3.10)
Pyke Holdings (I)	3.8(4.1)	0.04(0.01)	2.22(0.64)	Nil(Nil)	—	—(—)
Ricardo Eng (I)	—(—)	0.44(0.55)	9.0(18.5)	3.5(3.0)	16/4	—(—)
Smith & Nephew (F)	213.5(204.5)	24.3(22.2)	9.88(9.82)	2.6(2.4)	27/5	3.9(3.63)
Stothert and Pitt (I)	10.5(12.4)	1.05†(0.96†)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Utd Newspaper (F)	76.55(69.8)	4.53(8.19)	30.8(30.9)	7.5(15)	—	12(24)
Watmoughs (F)	15.0(13.0)	1.7(1.5)	26.68(27.53)	3.75(3.0)	30/4	5.25(4.3)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *=Net. †=Loss.

Johnson Group raises dividend

By Michael Prest

Johnson Group Cleaners, the Liverpool-based chain of dry cleaning shops, has reported pretax 1980 profits of £4.04m, almost exactly the same as in 1979. But the final dividend has been raised to 7.14p gross, giving a total payout of 10p gross for the whole year, an increase of 13 per cent.

Dry cleaning, for which the company has 684 outlets around the country taking 22 per cent of the market, suffered a slight fall in trading profit from £3.44m to £3.33m. But textile rental, specializing in renting out towels, dryers and other equipment, virtually doubled its trading profit to £1.24m.

Mr John Crockatt, the chairman, says that the increase in rental income is largely attributable to the heavy investment in this sector over the past seven years. It enabled the company to lift trading profit from £4.68m to £5.12m.



Mr John Crockatt, chairman of Johnson Group Cleaners.

But dry cleaning margins remain under pressure from stiff competition and labour and fuel costs. This is the main reason for profits failing to reflect the rise in turn over of £6.4m to £41.8m.

After-tax profits were also affected by a slightly higher tax charge of £598,000 against £410,000, despite allowance for capital spending.

United Newspapers profit nearly halved to £4.5m

By Margareta Pagano

Industrial disputes and the recession have left United Newspapers, publishers of *The Yorkshire Post*, *Punch* and a string of other regional papers, with pretax profits nearly halved to £4.53m in the year to December.

After a strong start last year the group was first hit by industrial action by the National Graphical Association, estimated to have cost £2m. Once trading was resumed, profits were severely affected by the steep fall in employment advertising which continued throughout the year. Pretax profits of £4.53m compare with £8.2m last time although sales in the period increased by 9.6 per cent to £76.5m.

The final gross dividend recommended is 10.7p, making a total for the year of 17.14p. After adjusting for last year's scrip issue, this is equal to the 34.2p for 1979.

The profits include an extraordinary item of £850,000 arising from the settlement of a claim after the construction of new works and offices in Northampton. It also includes £1.3m against £696,000 in 1979, from investment income due to higher interest rates and increased funds being invested. Cash resources at the year end were £5.9m against £6.6m last time.

Mr Leslie Huggins, a spokesman for the group, said that the recession had sharply affected advertising. The volume of advertising over the period was lower by about 10 per cent, but revenue increased over last year thanks to higher rates. Although property and retail sales advertising have picked up marginally, employm[ent] space shows no signs of [im]proving.

Revenue from newspa[per] sales has risen by some 18 [per] cent due to cover price [in]creases at the end of last ye[ar]. *Punch* and other magazin[es] such as the three farming p[eri]odicals, have been trad[ing] reasonably well and the *Yo[rk]shire Post* has maintained g[ood] profits. But profit margins [re]main depressed.

Over the past year Uni[ted] has continued its investm[ent] programme by bringing equ[ip]ment up to date, and £3.3[m] was spent on technologi[cal] development. Retained prof[its] are £3.8m against £4.6m [last] time.

The outlook for the ye[ar], said Mr Huggins, is diffic[ult] to predict, but trading [this] year is expected to be in exc[ess] of last year's profits.

Birmid sells offshoot for £2.97m

West Midlands-based Birmid Qualcast has sold its offshoot, Trucast Ltd, to Ross and Catherall for £2.97m cash.

This sale was the result of an approach by Ross, a long-standing supplier to Truecast of special steels and super alloys. Trucast, which operates at Ryde on the Isle of Wight, produces investment castings for a variety of uses: at November 1 last, Trucast's net assets were £2.42m and in the year to that date, trading profit was £441,000 on a turnover of £6.74m. The proceeds will be used to reduce Birmid's bank borrowings.

Bridport-Gundry goes into loss

Bridport-Gundry (Holdings), the Dorset-based netting and cordage manufacturer, made a loss for the first half and passed the dividend.

Pretax profits of £309,000 last time turned into losses of £336,000 and turnover fell £1m to £6.2m. Mr Robert Holder, the chairman, said that the recession was principally to blame for the reduction in volume.

In addition, the strength of sterling had made trading impossible in some overseas markets.

Highgate Optical optimistic

Highgate Optical and Industrial says its prospects for 1981 are encouraging. Sales are up on this time last year in all three divisions. In aggregate this amounts to about 30 per cent.

Referring to last year's High Court judgment in favour of Highgate's former managing director Mr Francis Strauss, board states that following negotiations, the company has settled for the sum of £53,000 together with his legal costs of £20,000.

Hollas to buy Town and County for £2m

Hollas Group has conditionally agreed to acquire Town and County Developments (Wembley) for £2.18m in shares which will be placed.

Town and County, which has never traded, will at completion have net assets of £2m consisting entirely of cash.

This cash will be used to expand and improve the group's warehousing and distribution facilities.

London Shop ahead for half year

Pretax profits at London Shop Property Trust rose from £252,000 to £450,000 for the half year to October 31 on turnover of £899,000 against £950,000. Earnings a share were 2.38p against 1.56p.

The board says that the effect of the programme of property sales is now showing through the accounts and that the increase in pretax profits arises largely from the reduction in the net interest payable.

Stothert and Pitt pass payment as losses rise

Turnover at Stothert & Pitt, the Bath engineering group, for the 26 weeks to December 27 fell from £12.4m to £10.55m and pretax losses rose from £965,000 to £1.05m. The deterioration is actually greater than this implies because the comparable period was longer at 28 weeks. For the full year to June 28, 1980, pretax losses were £1.45m.

Borrowings are understood to have risen, pushing interest charges up from £307,000 to £411,000, compared with £658,000 in 1979-80.

Last October, when the annual figures came out, the board paid a token dividend of 1.43p gross. With the latest interim figures it says simply: "The results do not justify any interim dividend."

While the £1m loss is said to be £250,000 higher than the board expected, the total order book, at £24m, is better tha[n] it has been for two years.

The directors, led by S[ir] Ralph Bateman, expect that t[he] United Kingdom engineering i[n]dustry will return to a mode[st] level of profitability by the e[nd] of the company's next financ[ial] year.

The improvement in w[ork] load was largely in the cr[ane] and deck machinery divis[ion] which benefits from Ministry [of] Defence and North Sea bu[si]ness. In the engineering d[ivi]sion, the bottom of the rec[es]sion may have been reached [but] there is no sign of an uptu[rn].

The contractors' plant d[ivi]sion is suffering from cutba[cks] in public housing. At the [last] count, debt was only a third [of] shareholders' funds and ass[ets] were 423p a share. The sha[res] are 110p, and the 1980-81 ra[nge] is between 114p and 63p.

Diversity helps Electrolux to overcome recession

International

Electrolux, the Swedish electronics and appliances group, said yesterday that group profits before appropriations and taxes rose to Kr1,050m (£101.9m) in 1980 from Kr934m the year before. Group sales rose sharply to Kr22,900m from Kr15,140m.

Profit and sales figures incorporate those of Granges, 92 per cent of whose shareholders agreed to acquisition by Electrolux taking effect at end-1980.

Earnings a share rose to Kr20.05 from Kr18.25 and the parent company dividend has been increased to Kr7.50 from Kr6.

Electrolux said that dem[and] slackened in the second qua[rter] after a strong start to sales [at] the beginning of 1980.

Demand continued w[eak] throughout the remainder [of the] principal markets but as a [res]ult of the group's wide-rang[ing] product and geographical s[pread] and production spread, [the] effects of the recession w[ere] largely balanced out. 1980 in many of the grou[p] of 9 per cent.

Banker critical of DB

Herr Max Hackl, managing board chairman of Bayerische Vereinsbank, said at the bank's annual press conference yesterday that 1981 would be a difficult year. He was particularly scathing in his criticism of Deutsche Bundesbank's adoption of a special, discretionary Lombard facility after suspending the regular Lombard rate.

He charged that the [dis]cretionary Lombard, wh[ose] rates could be changed da[ily] was throwing into disar[ray] interest rates generally and [the] money market in particul[ar]. This, he asserted, troub[led] domestic operations of W[est] German credit institutions [at] the outset of 1981.

Downturn at Kloeckner

Kloeckner-Werke, the West German steel and machine-making company, said its rolled steel production and sales both fell by about 9 per cent in the first four months of the year begun October 1.

Herr Herbert Gienow, managing board chairman, said it was not possible to make an ea[rn]ings prediction for the year [be]cause of uncertainty over h[ow] the steel crisis in the EEC wou[ld] be settled.

In the year to last Septe[m]ber 30, Kloeckner broke ev[en] after a loss of about DM[…] (£19.1m) the previous year.

Briefly

Local authority Bonds: Interest rate on this week's issue is 12¼ per cent. Issue price is 100 (last week 12¼ per cent at 100).

Keep Investment Trust: Group revenue for 1980 £123,500. Net revenue £52,000 after tax of £47,000. Eps 0.52p. Final 0.24p making 0.39p.

Meggitt Holdings: Mr J. D. Tyler, chairman, says activity in machine tool and other industries remains at a very low level and board thinks that this is likely to remain for much of 1981. Chairman believes that interim figures will make dismal reading.

Jove Investment Trust: Dividend for year to February 28, 4.3p net (4p). Net revenue £732,000 (£687,500). Earnings per income share 4.51p (4.27p). Nav per income share 51.25p (51.04p) and per capital share 1.43p (4.33p).

Glasgow Picture House: Offer by Glasgow Photo Playhouse is declared unconditional. Acceptances received in respect of 2,419 shares. This, with shares already held, makes total 12,000 shares (53.9 per cent).

Manson Finance Trust has formed an insurance broking subsidiary Manson and Moody which, as well as servicing insurance needs of all Manson Group's customers, will be offering a full broking service including life insurances and pensions.

Garnar Booth offers for Booth (International Holdings) shares not already owned have been declared unconditional and remain open. Name of Garnar Scotblair has been changed to Garnar Booth. Acceptances received in respect of 223m Booth shares (82.17 per cent). Garnar now owns or controls 3.88m shares (97 per cent).

Harrisons and Crosfield: Kuwait Investment Office acquired on March 16 an interest in a further 320,000 shares, making as at that date a total interest in 5.91m shares (10.12 per cent).

Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation based in Toronto, has acquired outstanding 49 per cent minority in its United Kingdom affiliate, Canada Permanent Trust Company (UK). Simultaneously, Canadian parent has injected £1.350m of new capital into United Kingdom company, thereby raising the issued capital from £1.10m to £2.45m.

Payout up as Brent profits dip

By Michael Clark

The United Kingdom recession has left its mark on Brent Chemicals International, the industrial chemicals group.

In spite of a 12 per cent rise in turnover to £32.1m, pretax profits have fallen from £3.4m to £3m and reduced earnings per share from 8.9p to 7.7p.

Nevertheless, the board has proposed a final dividend of 3.2p gross against 2.84p making a total of 4.28p. In addition shareholders will receive a free share handout on a one-for-two basis.

Mr Harry Holden, chairman, said that the group remained in a strong financial position and was well placed to weather the continued recession.

The group is pushing ahead with its overseas expansion plans which have included the recent United States acquisitions of Uresco for £530,000 and Stauffer Chemical for £3.2m. Most of the money for these purchases came from last year's £3.8m rights issue. No real contribution is expected from Stauffer during 1981 and the board expects to spend more this year to mould the group. But with borrowings at only 15 per cent of shareholders funds this should present no real problems.

Mr Steve Cuthbert, deputy chief executive, said that to combat the current fall off in demand in the United Kingdom the group intended to produce the bulk of its earnings from overseas.

At home, volume has been maintained with Ardrox UK achieving record sales and profits but elsewhere the fall off in demand has hit the automotive, packaging and brewing interests. Overheads have been reduced and there have been some redundancies, through natural wastage, among its 1,050 workforce.

BCA up 7pc despite Attwood loss

By Rosemary Unsworth

British Car Auction Group's interim profits showed a 7 per cent rise in spite of losses from Attwood Garages, acquired at the end of last year, and a reduced contribution from the gas appliance subsidiary.

Pretax profits rose from £1.1m to £1.2m while gross turnover from auctions advanced from £76.7m to £94.7m in the six months to January 31. Profits from the auction side increased from £650,000 to £900,000 this time, which reflected an improvement in commissions received as well as an increase in the average price of vehicles sold, from £700 to £1,100.

In addition the group is planning to raise its £6 auction entry fee to £10 shortly, which will come through in the second half. The stock market is expecting the group to produce £2.8m pretax profit by the year end against last year's £2.6m and the shares gained 1p to 77p.

BCA earned £4m in commission compared with £3.3m in the first half of 1979 while other sales represented £4.9m against £3.8m.



Mr David Wickins, chairman of British Car Auction Group.

But Readygas, the propane and butane gas and appliance retailer in the West Midlands, was hit by the mild winter and the recession.

"Sales were down in the first six months and profits were £62,000 compared with £216,000 last year", Mr David Wickens, the chairman, said. But he added that the subsidiary would break even by the end of the year although there are no industrial heating sales in the summer. The company is moving into the tent rental market which should improve its contribution.

Coin machines increased profits from £130,000 to £175,000 helped by the changes in the payout from machines. The rented caravan operation's performance was down and it contributed £100,000, while Attwoods, in which BCA has 58 per cent control lost £40,000. But Mr Wickens said that the division would be back in profit by the year end. Meanwhile, two of its properties are on the market and new management has been installed.

The interim dividend will be raised from 1.43p gross to 2.14p and the final is expected to be at least 2.43p which should give a 16 per cent increase at 4.57p on last year's total of 3.94p.

BCA is also auctioning Ford Motor group's own cars to holders of Ford credit cards, which it is estimated will produce £96,000 profit in the next six months.

Endeavour takes 20pc stake in Northern Mining

By Michael Prest, Mining Correspondent

Endeavour Resources, the mining and exploration company 40 per cent owned by Bond Corporation, has acquired a stake of almost 20 per cent in Northern Mining.

It is understood that the stake is intended to block the possible purchase of a significant interest in Northern by National Mutual Life, a leading Australian life assurance company, which already holds about 10 per cent of Northern.

The main attraction of Northern is its 5 per cent holding in the Ashton diamond joint venture, led by Gonzinc Riotinto of Australia. It is widely felt in Australia that Ashton will announce plans to go ahead with the venture later this year.

Watmoughs notches up another record year

By Our Financial Staff

Shares of quality colour printers, publishers and engravers Watmoughs (Holdings), jumped 18p to a new 12-month high of 203p yesterday as the group reported its fifth consecutive year of record profits.

The group, which prints the Empire Stores mail order catalogue, *Management Today*, *Illustrated London News* and now has the contract from Haymarket for *Marketing* and *Engineering Today*, increased pretax profits for 1980 by 14 per cent to £1.7m. Turnover rose from £13m to £15m.

Pretax profits for the second half advanced 15 per cent to £1m, but Mr Patrick Walker, chairman, was reluctant to make predictions about this year. He said that the first quarter had been reasonably good and was on target. Despite the difficulties facing the industry this year should be another good one for the group, he said.

Last March at the time of the group's £1.3m one-for-four rights issue, Watmoughs forecast a total gross dividend of not less than 7.14p. It has announced a total of 7.5p with a 5.35p final.

A breakdown of figures shows that profits of Watmoughs Ltd, its main printing subsidiary, went up from £1.1m to £1.2m, mail order catalogue printers D. H. Greaves increased from £259,810 to £382,094, and its monoreproduction company, Web Graphics went up from £18,223 to £20,889.

Wolverhampton Laundry stake changes hands

A London-based company, Concourt, has bought a 20.5 per cent stake in Wolverhampton Steam Laundry for about £78,000.

The 266,000 shares, which cost 29½p each, were believed to have come from the estate of Mr Tom Hampson Silk, the former chairman of Wolverhampton Steam who died in an accident last year.

A purchase of more than 15 per cent of the equity up to 29.9 per cent is allowed under Takeover Panel rules if a holding comes from one shareholder and is sold to a single buyer.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under [illegible]

UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly figures for unemployment in the UK published by the Department of Employment yesterday.

Month	Adults (adjusted)	% of all employees	Unadj inc school leavers
1980			
March	1.411	6.1	1.478
April	1.456	6.3	1.523
May	1.495	6.2	1.509
June	1.542	6.9	1.660
July	1.609	7.8	1.897
Aug	1.697	8.3	2.001
Sept	1.791	8.4	2.039
Oct	1.893	8.5	2.063
Nov	2.039	8.9	2.163
Dec	2.137	9.3	2.244
1981			
Jan	2.229	10.0	2.419
Feb	2.304	10.2	2.463
March	2.331	10.3	2.485

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Seasonally adjusted (excluding school leavers)

	Number	Change in month	% of all employees
South East	515.8	−18.4	6.8
East Anglia	57.9	−1.6	8.0
South West	146.9	4.7	8.8
W Midlands	270.1	−9.8	11.6
E Midlands	144.8	5.3	9.0
Yorkshire & Humberside	218.7	−6.5	10.4
N West	332.0	−10.2	11.9
North	172.4	−3.5	12.9
Wales	139.8	+3.3	12.9
Scotland	284.6	−6.5	11.7
Britain	2,256.2	−74.9	9.7
N Ireland	94.9	−1.8	16.4
UK	2,350.8	−76.7	9.9

Business appointments

De La Rue non-executive director

Mr Martin Harris, deputy chairman of Reckitt & Colman and chairman of Nexos Office Systems, has been elected a non-executive director of the De La Rue Company. He is also a director of National Westminster Bank, County Bank, Equity & Law and Inmos. Sir Henry Chilver has retired from the board.

Mr John G. Taylor, a former director of British Land Developments, has been appointed chief executive of Rohan Developments.

Mr Bill Francis, the managing director of the civil, structural and international construction division of Trafalgar House, has become chairman of Cleveland Engineering Holdings, a new company responsible for the structural activities of the Trafalgar group. Mr John Fletcher has been appointed managing director.

Mr David Gill is to become finance director of Brooke Bond Oxo on March 30. He succeeds Mr David Lewis who transfers to Brooke Bond Liebig's head office as a divisional controller.

Mr Gordon Dawson and Mr Robert L. Lickley, past presidents of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, are to join the board of Froude Engineering as non-executive directors.

Viscount Montgomery of Alamein has joined the board of Northern Engineering Industries as a non-executive director.

Mr J. L. E. Smith has been appointed to the board of Greycoat Estates.

Mr Stuart G. Moberley has become a director of McKechnie Britain.

Mr A. D. Scott, formerly director of consumer credit at the Office of Fair Trading, has been appointed chief executive and member of the board of CoSIRA (Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas). He succeeds Mr B. P. Dabell who is retiring.

Mr George Tulip is the new managing director of Derek Crouch Construction Company.

Mr Iain A. McKay has been appointed vice-chairman of McKay Securities.

Mr David G. Brooks, Mr Peter L. Hogarth and Mr John R. White are to be admitted to the partnership of Thomson McLintock & Co, London. Mr Stephen J. Bell has been appointed an associate.

Mr George Foster has joined Lowndes-Ajax Computer Service as director responsible for personnel.

Mr E. A. Madenski has been appointed chairman and Dr R. Ricks managing director of a new company, Babcock Mining Services. The other directors are Mr D. J. Fulker, Mr G. R. Govan, Mr B. C. Jones, Mr E. L. Merrifield and Mr W. J. R. Ryder.

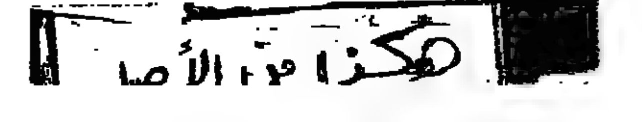
M René Lamy, the governor of Société Générale de Belgique, and vice president of Union Minière has joined the board of Tanks Consolidated Investments.

Mr T. G. Gilkes and Mr A. C. Storkey, general managers at MAIBL (Midland and International Banks), have been appointed directors of the bank from April 1.

Mr Anthony B. Hampton is the new president of Record Ridgway. Mr Lars-Olof Hjalmar becomes chairman, and Mr H. Peterhart, deputy chairman.

Mr David Bysouth has been appointed managing director of Sterling Health, a division of Sterling-Winthrop Group.

Mr E. J. Andrews, managing director of Andrews Bros. (Plastering), has been elected president of the Federation of Building Sub-Contractors for 1981/82. The new senior vice-president is Mr P. G. Bullen, managing director of Clarence Tiling Co. and the junior vice-president is Mr J. K. Bagnall, group managing director of Alfred Bagnall & Sons.



MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER [illegible] were steadier yesterday; cathodes were quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £827.50-28.50 a metric ton; three months, £851.50-52.00. Sales, 4,[illegible]. Cash cathodes £82[illegible]; three months, £840-41.00. Sales, 2,125 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £826.50-27.00; three months, £84[illegible]-49.50. Settlement, £827.00. Sales, 13,300 tons. Cash cathodes £820-21.00; three months, £8[illegible]-37.00. Settlement, £821.00. Sales, 75 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady; high-grade was idle.—Afternoon.—Standard, cash, £60.80-61.00 a tonne; three months, £61.90-[illegible]. Sales, 410 tonnes. High grade cash, £60.80-61.00; three months, £61.[illegible]. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £60.75-80; three months, £61.80-85. Settlement, £60.80. Sales, 45[illegible] tonnes. High grade cash, £60.75-80; three months, £61.80-85. Settlement £60.80. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works rose by 27 cents yesterday to 30.[illegible] ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £[illegible]-29.00 per tonne; three months, £[illegible]-53.50. Sales, 3,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £327.50-328.00; three months, £[illegible]. Settlement, £328.00. Sales, 4,700 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £341.50-42.00 per tonne; three months, £350.50-51.00. Sales, 1,550 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £33[illegible]-340.00; three months £34[illegible] 50. Settlement, £340.00. Sales, 5,200 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £237.30 ($537.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steadier at the close.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 5[illegible]p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1270.00); three months, [illegible]p (1316.0c); six months, [illegible]p (1365.60c); one year, 6[illegible]p (1466.00c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, [illegible]; three months, [illegible]-5.0p. Sales, [illegible] lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 563-565.0p; three months, 581-583.0p. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 52 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steadier y'day.—Afternoon.—Cash, £638-40.00 per tonne; three months, £648-49.00. Sales 2,527 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £[illegible]-40.00; three months, £[illegible]17-647.50. Settlement, £640.00. Sales 1,875 tonnes.

NICKEL was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,805-10 per tonne; three months, £2785-90. Sales, 168 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2[illegible]-2830; three months, £2800-2810. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 222 tonnes.

RUBBER was uncertain (pence per kilo).—Apl 54.00-54.30; May 55.10-[illegible]; Apl-Jne, 53.90-55.70; Jly-Sep, [illegible]-60.80; Oct-Dec, 63.70-63.80; Jan-Mch, 65.60-65.70; Apl-Jne 68.50-[illegible]; Jly-Sep, 71.60-71.50; Oct-Dec, 71.30-71.40. Sales, 39 lots at five tonnes each and 6[illegible] lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet (All in pence per kilo).—Spot, 53.00-54.00; [illegible] April, 58.00-58.50; May, 58.50-[illegible].

COFFEE.—**ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): March 1038-40; May 1049-50; July 10[illegible]; September 1045-46; November 1012-45; January 1048-54; March 1055-59. Sales, 7,471 lots, including 7 options.

ARABICA (officials at 16.45).—April 143.00-45.00; June 143.00-[illegible]; August 141.50-46.00; October 141.00-47.00; December 141.00-48.00; February 141.00-48.00; April 141.00-[illegible]. Sales, One lot.

COCOA was steady yesterday (£ per metric ton).—March 860-75; May [illegible]; July 959-60; September [illegible]; December 1001-02; March [illegible]; May 1043-45. Sales, 2,197 lots including two options.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £9.00 lower at £241; the "whites" price was £5.00 lower at £272. Futures (£ per tonne).—May, [illegible]; Aug, 239.55-39.60; Oct, 233.50-33.70; Jan, 218.50-19.00; March, 219.50-19.85; May, 218.15-[illegible]; Aug, 218.15-18.75. Closing [illegible] Steady. Sales, 5,457 lots. ISA prices (March 2[illegible]) daily, 22.35c; 15-day average, 21.67c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet yesterday (£ per tonne).—April, 103.00-03.50; June, 1[illegible]; Aug, 129.80-29.00; Oct, 130.00-30.00; Dec, 131.50-33.00; Feb, 132.50-36.50; June, 133.00-37.50. Sales: 10[illegible] lots.

WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract (cents per kilo) (quiet).—March, [illegible]; May, [illegible]; Aug, 355-357; Oct, [illegible]; Dec, 372-375; Jan, 374-[illegible]; March 380-386; May, 380-385; [illegible] 382-387. Sales: 55 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—**WHEAT**.—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: unquoted. US hard winter 13½ per cent: March, £105; April, £10[illegible]; May £[illegible] trans-shipment east coast. EEC, unquoted. English feed: April, £115.50; May, £117; June, £118 east coast.

MAIZE.—US-French.—First half April, £125 trans-shipment east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow March-April, £87.00.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: April, £105.50; May-June, £104.50 east coast. All per tonne cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was steady yesterday.—May, £[illegible]; Sept, £[illegible]; Nov, £97.10; Jan, £101.1[illegible]. Sales: [illegible] lots. **WHEAT** was steady.—May, £113.00; July, £116.70; Sept, £[illegible]; Nov, £102.60; Jan, £106.[illegible]. Sales: [illegible] lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices.

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	—	£108.60	£95.60
S West	—	—	—
W Midlands	—	£110.40	£97.10
N West	£114.00	£112.00	£98.90

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 24.—**GB**: Cattle, 8[illegible]p per kg lw (+0.76). **UK**: Sheep, 174.07p per kg est d c w (+5.35). **GB**: Pigs, 70.85p per kg lw (+1.24). **England and Wales**: Cattle nos down 0.5 per cent, ave price, 88.05p (+0.46). Sheep nos up 1.1 per cent, ave price, 175.93p (+5.05). Pig nos down 8.2 per cent, ave price, 70.[illegible] (+1.21). **Scotland**: Cattle nos down 11.1 per cent, ave price 90.61p (+1.87). Sheep nos down 9.6 per cent, ave price, 173.82p (+6.81). Pig nos down 8.4 per cent, ave price, 69.72p (+1.47).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—**Home-produced**: All available supplies are being absorbed.

Imported: A steady market exists in other EEC countries, with prices holding.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer/first-hand):

Brown	Wed/Thur/Fri	Mon/Tues
1's	5.80 to 5.90	5.80 to 5.90
2's	5.35 to 5.55	5.40 to 5.60
3's	5.50 to 5.10	5.20 to 5.30
4's	5.10 to 5.20	5.00 to 5.20

White	Wed/Thur/Fri	Mon/Tues
1's	5.60 to 5.70	5.60 to 5.70
2's	5.20 to 5.30	5.20 to 5.30
3's	5.00 to 5.10	5.00 to 5.10
4's	4.65 to 5.05	4.95 to 5.05
5's	4.70 to 4.80	4.75 to 4.80
6's	4.30 to 4.50	4.30 to 4.50
7's	3.50 to 3.60	3.50 to 3.60

Imported prices (in £):

French brown	Current Arrivals
1's	5.40 to 5.50
2's	5.10 to 5.20
3's	5.00 to 5.10
4's	4.85 to 4.95
5's	4.70 to 4.80

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

Spot silver bullion prices rise sharply

In London yesterday spot silver bullion prices rose strongly in late trading in line with gold to close at 1320.00-1330.00 US cents an ounce.

This brings prices back in line with Monday night's close before the subsequent sharp fall in the United States on the news that the Federal Reserve Board chairman Mr Paul Volcker had reaffirmed that the Hunt Brothers must sell their silver holdings.

Prices yesterday traded narrowly within the opening range of 1260.00-1280.000 cents with the "fix" at 1270.000 cents before picking up sharply afterwards.

Discount market

The discount market had a quiet day yesterday. Underlying factors had at first suggested a moderate shortage, but it was looking more like a surplus situation at the finish. Nevertheless, the Bank of England gave help on a small scale. Rates opened rather uncertainly between 11¾ and 12 per cent, spent most of the session within a band of 11¾ and 12 per cent and closed at about 11¾ per cent.

Foreign exchange report

Prime rate cuts of half-a-point by Citibank and First National Chicago to match the 17 per cent from Chemical Bank last week prompted a late decline in the dollar yesterday, which, earlier on, had been showing modest gains against most major currencies. Sterling, which had maintained a firm position throughout, was able to close at about $2.2660—a gain of 165 points compared with Monday night's close of $2.2495.

Sterling's "effective" exchange index also made strong headway, improving to 100.6 from 100.1 at Monday's close. Dealers were surprised by the prime rate reductions. Most had expected US interest rates to be stabilized at current levels, particularly after Monday's "FED" liquidity moves and yesterday's higher Eurodollar deposit rate trends.

Early support for sterling stemmed from Far Eastern and Continental demand after the Chancellor's warning against over optimism over a sharp fall in UK interest rates.

The dollar weakened in terms of the D-mark.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 24	Market rates (close) March 24	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2530-2690	$2.2655-2665	.27-.37c disc	1.27-1.37c disc
Montreal	$2.6720-6830	$2.6800-6810	1.18-1.28c disc	2.70-2.85c disc
Amsterdam	5.20-24fl	5.22-23fl	1¼-¼c prem	3½-2½c prem
Brussels	77.20-60f	77.30-40f	9-19c disc	34-44c disc
Copenhagen	14.81-88k	14.85¾-86¾k	300-365ore disc	780-965ore disc
Dublin	1.2900-3000p	1.2935-2945p	14-30p disc	47-65p disc
Frankfurt	4.70-74m	4.71½-72½m	⅝pf prem-⅛pf disc	1pf prem-par
Lisbon	127.20-90e	127.40-60e	05c prem-70c disc	20-200c disc
Madrid	191.40-192-50p	191.60-80p	45-100c disc	240-325c disc
Milan	2350-61lr	2359-61lr	14-16lr disc	44¼-48¾lr disc
Oslo	12.13-18k	12.17-18k	60ore prem-70 ore d	115ore prem-35ore d
Paris	11.09½-15f	11.11½-12½f	1¼-¼c prem	½c prem-½c disc
Stockholm	10.32-36½k	10.35-36k	285-370ore disc	1120-1305ore disc
Tokyo	470-75y	472-73y	1.75-1.20y prem	5.30-4.70y prem
Vienna	33.32-52sch	33.40-45sch	6-2gro prem	11-pargro prem
Zurich	4.27½-31½f	4.29-30f	2¼-1¼c prem	5½-4½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.5 at 100.6.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9210-1.9380
Bahrein	0.85-0.8530
Finland	9.0840-9.1240
Greece	114.00-116.00
Hongkong	11.8950-11.9350
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6175-0.6205
Malaysia	5.1330-5.1630
Mexico	52.7-54.2
New Zealand	2.4305-2.4505
Saudi Arabia	7.5550-7.5850
Singapore	4.7220-4.7520
South Africa	1.7825-1.7975

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	100.6	−26.1
US dollar	99.2	−4.7
Canadian dollar	85.8	−17.5
Schilling	117.0	+22.6
Belgian franc	108.3	+9.3
Danish kroner	90.1	−10.1
Deutsche mark	121.6	+40.6
Swiss franc	136.4	+76.1
Guilder	113.1	+16.0
French franc	87.6	−8.7
Lira	59.6	−55.1
Yen	145.1	+40.9

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7560-1.7520
† Canada	1.1825-1.1828
Netherlands	2.3040-2.3060
Belgium	34.11-34.14
Denmark	6.5500-6.5550
West Germany	2.0810-2.0820
Portugal	56.35-56.50
Spain	84.58-84.63
Italy	1041-1042
Norway	5.3750-5.3850
France	4.9030-4.9060
Sweden	4.5650-4.5750
Japan	208.40-208.60
Austria	14.73-14.75
Switzerland	1.8940-1.8955

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8453-0.8456

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%

(Last changed 10/3/81)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13 Low 11½

Week Fixed: 12

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅝	2 months	11½
3 months	11⁹⁄₁₆	3 months	11½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	11¹³⁄₁₆-11¹¹⁄₁₆	3 months	12½
3 months	11¹¹⁄₁₆-11⁹⁄₁₆	4 months	12⅜
4 months	11⅝-11½	6 months	12
6 months	11⁵⁄₁₆-11³⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13⅝-13⅛	7 months	12½-12¼
2 months	13½-13¼	8 months	12½-12¼
3 months	13-12¾	9 months	12⅞-12⅝
4 months	12¾-12½	10 months	12⅞-12⅝
5 months	12⅝-12⅜	11 months	12⅞-12⅝
6 months	12½-12¼	12 months	12⅞-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	12⅝-12½	6 months	12⅛-12
3 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆	12 months	12-11¹³⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12½	3 months	12⅝
7 days	12⅝	6 months	12⅜
1 month	12¹¹⁄₁₆	1 year	12⅜

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12½-12¼ Close 11⅞

1 week	12½-12¼	6 months	12⅞-12¼
1 month	12¹³⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆	9 months	12⅞-12¼
3 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆	12 months	12⅞-12⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 13½ 6 months 12⅞

Finance House Base Rate 14%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.6349	+2.05	+1.97	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.98673	+0.85	+0.77	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	2.53947	−0.22	−0.30	1.125
French franc	5.99526	5.98473	−0.18	−0.26	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.80948	−0.13	−0.21	1.512
Irish punt	0.685145	0.696774	+1.70	+1.62	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1265.91	+0.24	+0.16	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13-14; seven days, 13⁵⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆; one month, 12¹¹⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆; three months, 14⁷⁄₁₆-14¹¹⁄₁₆; six months, 14½-14¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $531 (an ounce); pm, $536.25 close, $540.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $552-555 (£243.75-245.25).
Sovereigns (new): $133-135 (£58.75-59.75).

Wall Street

New York, March 24.—Stocks turned back after a strong upward surge in early trading and finished below the 1,000-level once again.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished with a loss of 8.10 points to 996.13 after an early spurt to 1,010.

Declining issues were 3-to-2 ahead of advances.

Volume jumped to nearly 67,000,000 shares up from 57,580,000 shares yesterday.

The 17 per cent prime lending rate spread across the banking industry today while one smaller bank dropped its rate to 16½ per cent.

International Paper was off ½ at 49¾, Weyerhaeuser off 1½ at 38¼, and Mead off ½ at 31½.

Honeywell dropped 2 to 102¼, and Control Data fell 1½ to 64¾. Raytheon was off 2½ to 99¾, Perkin-Elmer off 1½ to 30 and Hewlett Packard down 3 at 87¼.

In the oil sector Mobil was 67¾ up ¼, Standard Oil of Indiana 71½ up ½, Standard Oil-Ohio 53½ up 1½, Phillips 48 off ½, and Ashland 38½ off 2.

Scott Paper closed at 22 off ½.
St Joe Minerals closed at 53 up 7. Seagram closed at 54 up ½.

International Telephone gained ¼ at 32¼. It is discussing possible sale of its 49 per cent interest in a Brazilian company.

Dow Chemical	37⅛	37⅛	Ogden	34	34⅛	Cominco	[illegible]
Dresser Ind	47⅜	46⅞	Olin Corp	23⅝	23⅜	Cons Bathurst	28⅝
Duke Power	17⅛	17½	Owens-Illinois	30⅝	30⅝	Gulf Oil	35⅝
Du Pont	49⅝	48⅝	Pacific Gas Elec	20⅜	20⅜	Hawker Sid Can	29½
Eastern Air	9⅛	9⅛	Pan Am	6⅛	6⅛	Hudson Bay Min	32½
Eastman Kodak	80⅝	82⅛	Penney J. C.	28⅜	28⅛	Hudson Bay Oil	32⅝
Eaton Corp	35⅛	35	Pennzoil	42⅝	42⅝	Imasco	35⅜
El Paso Nat Gas	23⅛	24	Pepsico	34⅝	34⅛	Imperial Oil	33⅝
Equitable Life	10⅛	10⅞	Pfizer	52⅞	52⅞	Int Pipe	14⅜
Esmark	62⅞	63	Phelps Dodge	41⅞	42⅝	Mass.-Fergsn	5
Evans P. D.	22⅞	23⅛	Philip Morris	51⅛	51	Royal Trust	27⅛
Exxon Corp	70⅝	70⅝	Phillips Petrol	44	49⅛	Seagram	63½
Fed Dept Stores	38⅝	38⅝	Polaroid	29	30	Steel Co	39⅛
Firestone	12⅝	13	PPG Ind	50⅝	51½	Thomson N 'A'	23
Fst Chicago	17	16⅞	Procter Gamble	70⅝	71⅛	Walker Hiram	26⅛
Fst Nat Boston	39⅛	38⅝	Pub Ser El & Gas	19⅛	19⅛	WCT	15

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 2.2665 (2.2625); three months, 2.2720 (2.2745); Canadian dollar, 1.848 (1.1850).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 426.24 (421.96). The futures index was 434.88 (433.48).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 996.13 (1,004.23); transportation, 421.93 (424.54); utilities, 107.60 (108.32); 65 stocks, 381.72 (386.57). New York Stock Exchange index, composite, 77.62 (78.01); industrials, 90.70 (91.25); transportation 78.77 (78.48); utilities, 37.79 (38.07); financial, 74.00 (75.77).

US commodities

New York, March 24.—SILVER futures at the Comex retreated 1[illegible] cents from the day's best levels, but settled 20 cents net higher, amid lingering uncertainties over distribution of the Hunt Brothers' silver holdings. March, 1,314.00-1,320.00c; April, 1,31[illegible].00c; May, 1,3[illegible].00-1,335.00c; July, 1,366.00c; Sep, 1,400.00c; Dec, 1,449.00c; Jan, 1,465.00c; March, 1,497.50c; May, 1,530.00c; July, 1,562.50c; Sep, 1,595.00c; Dec, 1,644.00c.

GOLD at NY Comex closed at $535.30 an ounce for March, up $0.20 on yesterday. March, $535.30; April, $535.60-$536.80; May, $542.30; June, $547.50-$550.00; Aug, $559.90-$562.00; Oct, $573.00; Dec, $586.00-$587.00; Feb, $594.50; April, $609.80; June, $622.10; Aug, $634.50; Oct, $649.90; Dec, $659.40.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD: March, $537.00; April, $543.00; June, $540.50-$548.00; July, $544.20; Sept, $569.00-$567.50; Oct, $573.00; Dec, $586.00; Jan, $575.80; March, $601.00; April, $597.60.

COPPER futures for March at NY Comex closed 0.90 cents a lb higher on yesterday to close at 86.10 cents. March, 86.10c; April, 85.25c; May, 86.50c-86.50c; July, 88.50c-88.60c; Sep, 90.70c; Dec, 93.90c; Jan, 94.60c; March, 96.40c; May, 98.40c; July, 100.40c; Sep, 102.40c; Dec 105.40c; Jan, 106.40c.

SUGAR NO 11 closed higher generally, spot May add 0.30 cent a lb on yesterday. May, 23.10-23.20c; July, 23.25-23.30c; Sept, 22.65c; Oct, 22.40-22.50c; Jan, 20.90-21.10c; March, 21.01-21.05c; May, 21.00-21.05c; July, 20.95-21.15c.

COTTON futures for May closed 0.20 cents lower on yesterday to end at 87.85 cents, May 87.60c-87.70c; July 88.50c-88.65c; Oct 85.85c; Dec 83.95-83.05c; March 83.70-84.00c; May 84.20-84.80c; July 84.50-85.00c.

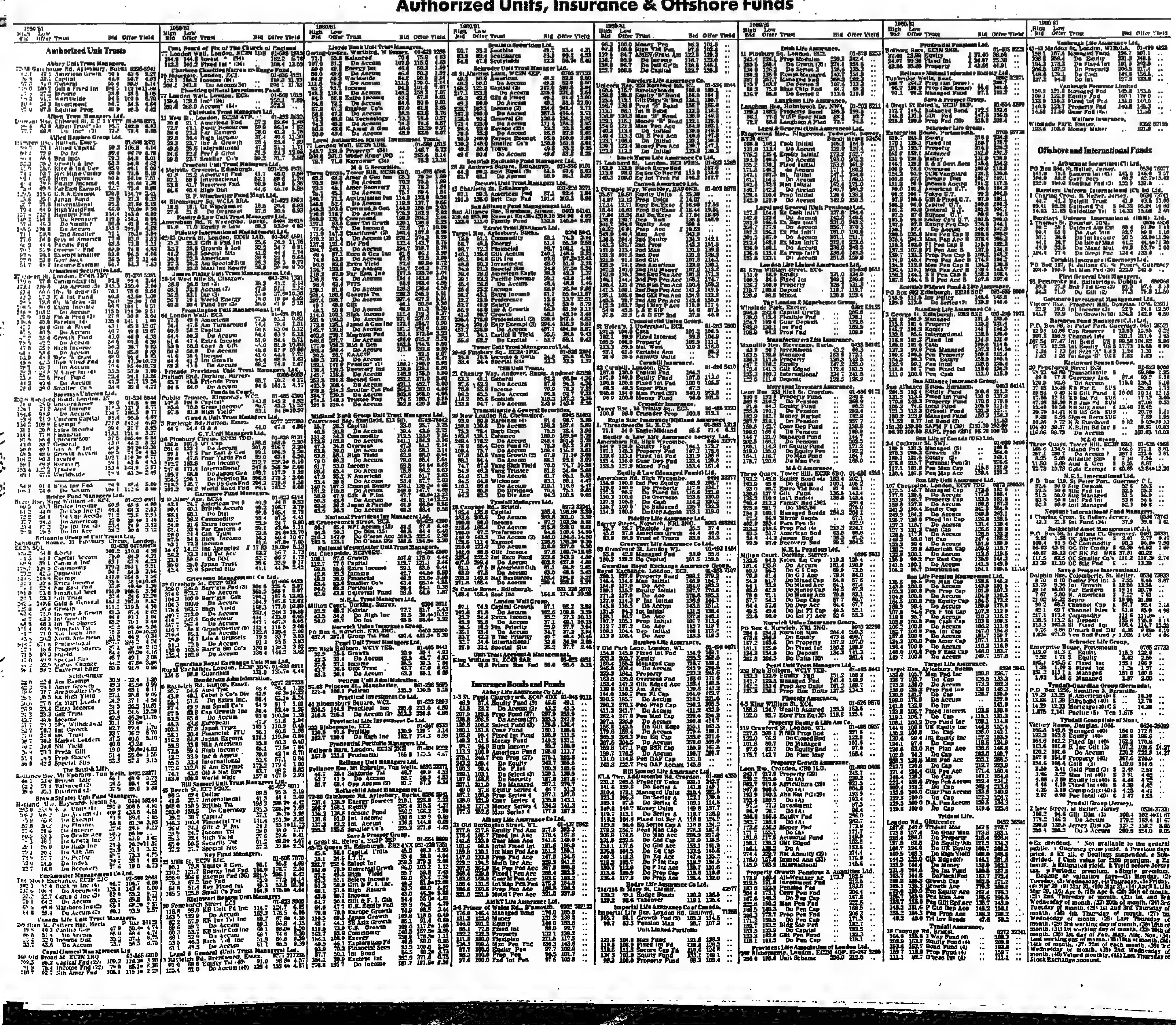
COFFEE futures closed within the lower half of the day's trading range, down 1.10cent in all contracts except spot May, which added 0.4 cent at 128.67 cents a lb. May, 128.00c-128.75c; July, 127.75c-128.00c; Sept, 127.50c-127.70c; Dec, 125.90c; March, 124.40c; May, 124.10c; July, 124.30c-125.00c.

COCOA contracts ended $10.00 a ton lower to unchanged. Spot May ended weakest at $2,035 a ton. May, $2,035; July, $2,090; Sept, $2,133; Dec, $2,195; March, $2,245; May, $2,292; July, $2,342.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Closed fractionally lower in July to off five cents in distant May in diminished trade.—SOYABEANS.—May, 785c-776c; July, 806c-799c; Aug, 816c-808c; Sep, 822½c-815c; Nov, 840c-831½c; Jan, 857c-849½c; March, 877c-871c; May, 891c-886½c. SOYABEAN OIL closed up 0.01 cents a lb to off 0.50 cents.—May, 25.15c-25.10c; July, 25.90c; Aug, 26.15c-26.20c; Sep, 26.40c; Oct, 26.70c; Dec, 27.20c-27.25c; Jan, 27.40c; March, 28.05c-28.10c; May, 28.55c-28.60c. SOYABEAN MEAL futures closed up $1.10 to off $0.70 a ton.—May, $220.50-$221.00; July, $229.00-$228.50; Aug, $231.50; Sep, $234.00-$234.50; Oct, $237.00-$237.50; Dec, $240.50; Jan, $243.00-$243.50; March, $247.80-$248.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT futures closed up four cents a bushel in old crop to fractionally higher in new. May, 458c-450c; July, 447c-440c; Sept, 461c-455½c; Dec, 482½c-477c; March, 500c-495c. MAIZE futures ended mixed, up two cents a bushel in May to fractionally off in new crop. May, 367c-363c; July, 376c-373c; Sept, 37[illegible]c-375½c; Dec, 384c-377c; March, 392c-387c; May, 398½c-394½c. OATS were slightly higher, up 1.30 cents a bushel for May to close at 223.3 cents. May, 223½-221c; July, 215½c-212½c; Sept, 214½c-212c; Dec, 225c-222½c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds



Authorized Unit Trusts

Abbey Unit Trust Managers, 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks 0296-5941

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	47.1	American Growth	59.1	63.6	2.27
[illegible]	33.1	Capital	46.9	50.7	4.83
[illegible]	[illegible]	General	56.4	59.8	5.14

Cent Board of Fin of The Church of England, 77 London Wall, London, EC2N 1DB 01-588 1815

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
184.9	144.8	Invest * (34)	..	182.2	5.76
112.3	101.2	Fixed Int * (34)	..	108.4	12.89

Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, W Sussex. 01-623 1288

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
71.1	53.8	Balanced	70.8	75.9	4.53
107.0	81.2	Do Accum	107.0	115.0	4.63
50.0	49.8	Energy Int	46.4	50.1	1.99
50.0	49.8	Do Accum	46.4	50.1	1.99
84.2	59.2	Worldwide	84.2	90.1	2.14
111.6	76.9	Do Accum	111.6	120.0	2.14

Scottish Securities Ltd.

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
50.7	35.3	Scotbits	49.7	53.4	4.31
83.9	59.4	Scotshares	83.0	90.3	4.33
54.8	47.0	Scotyields	52.8	56.7e	8.46

Irish Life Assurance, 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2 01-628 8253

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
245.4	226.1	Prop Modules	230.3	242.4	..
285.5	269.4	Do Growth (31)	274.4	288.8	..
134.8	126.2	Do Series 2	128.6	135.3	..
150.2	135.8	Exmpt Managed	143.7	151.3	..
287.8	257.7	Managed Fnd	268.2	282.3	..
115.7	103.7	Do Series 2	107.6	113.3	..

Prudential Pensions Ltd, Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
37.40	23.90	Equity	£ 37.40	38.56	..
24.97	20.38	Fixed Int	£ 24.97	25.20	..
43.54	35.80	Property	£ 43.54	44.01	..

Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd, 41-43 Maddox St, London, W1R 9LA. 01-499 4923

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
198.1	167.4	Managed Fund	196.7	207.1	..
338.8	259.4	Do Equity	331.3	348.8	..
194.2	173.3	Do Fixed Int	191.7	202.0	..
206.5	187.3	Do Property	206.5	217.4	..
148.6	139.1	Do Cash	145.6	156.5	..
127.2	94.3	Do Int	127.2	133.9	..

Offshore and International Funds

Stock Exchange Prices

Strong surge after hours

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 16. Dealings End, March 27. § Contango Day, March 30. Settlement Day, April 6

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

La Creme De La Creme

-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

La creme de la creme
also on page 24

Crème Crème

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

also on page 23

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A substantial "blue chip" organisation based in Mayfair requires a competent secretary with first class shorthand and typing to provide a full secretarial back-up to their finance director who is in his mid 40s. Discretion, initiative and the ability to communicate at a senior level are important. Autumn salary review. Good fringe benefits, age 25-35.

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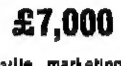
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flexible time approx. 20 hours per week.

Please phone: MAY DEPARTMENT STORES INTERNATIONAL INC. 631 5008

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FLATMATES.—313 Brompton Rd. Selective sharing. 589 5491.

FLATSHARE. 213 Piccadilly. 734 0318. Professional people sharing.

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SW5.—Own large room in luxury flat. £35 p.w. excl.

N1.—Own room for grad. prof. or PhD. 20-30. £32 inc.

PECKHAM.—Large elegant house, own room, 7 minutes London Bridge. £25 per week excl.

S.W.11. Third girl reqd. own room, 6 month let, all mod. cons.

GREENWICH, near Park, prof woman to share flat, avail from April 1st. £120 p.c.m. incl.

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TWICKENHAM—Prof man 25 plus share flat with owner £30 p.w. incl. Ring after 7.15 p.m.

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CHISWICK HALL.—Sunny ground floor flat with terrace, attractively furnished. 1 bed, recep., k & b. ch. & tel. £65 p.w.

MELTON COURT SW7. Lovely flat with 2 double bedrooms, bathroom, double reception room, kitchen breakfast room, with machines. Ch & chw. 24 hour porterage incl. in rent. Long let.

WEST HAMPSTEAD NW6. 1 bed, recept., k & b, furn. flat. Part c.h. in p.b. block. £70 p.w.

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KENSINGTON.—Lecturer's attractive flat to let, 4-5 weeks only, 2 rooms, k & b: £65 p.w. incl.

HOLLAND PARK, W.11.—Unfurnished, newly decorated, sunny, spacious 3 bedroomed flat. Suit Co. Long let. Buchanans.

NW8.—2 bed. furn. flat. £100 p.w.

CHELSEA.—Beautifully designed and furnished house. 5 beds, 2 recep, 2 bath, clks, all machines, roof terr. & patio. Suit co. Long let. Buchanans.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

(continued on page 25)

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL CHOICE



Richard Orme and Zero: They can be seen in the first episode of The Bagthorpe Saga (BBC 1, 5.05).

●"If the Sharks Don't Get Me . . ." (ITV, 9.00) starts off pure Ealing comedy, ends pure Hitchcock thriller. Lovely blonde pilot Judith Chisholm lands in French village to reclaim repaired aircraft which earlier made forced landing, upside down. Mayoral reception. Champagne. Kisses. Pink carnations. The Marseillaise from local band. Dog chasing own tail in excitement. That is the Ealing bit. The Hitchcock bit comes when fate in various guises (no sponsors, appendicitis, fuel pipe leak) tries to prevent Miss Chisholm from taking off in her Cessna to beat Jean Batten's record for the solo flight to Sydney. In between Ealing and Hitchcock, more illustrations of director Barry Cockcroft's uncanny knack of getting people to talk interestingly about life's challenges (Morecambe Bay fishing, search for Spanish ancestral roots). Miss Chisholm and her aircraft are surpassingly photogenic.

●*I fear I have neglected afternoon TV for children. Let me put* that right. A new serial starts today (BBC 1, 5.05) and it's a corker The Bagthorpe Saga, fast and funny, is James Andrew Hall's adaptation of Helen Cresswell's books about an eccentric family. The title makes them sound like fish-and chip, working-class Lancashire folk, whereas they are upper middle-class, live in the country and are all clever and preoccupied except for the one son who is merely average and is, therefore, at odds with himself. I heard tut-tutting at the press preview when a pyromaniacal girl set fire to the house. Viewed in this story's general perspective of domestic anarchy, the incident does not look to me like an incitement to indiscriminate arson. . . . Tonight's instalment of the Lloyd George saga (BBC 2, 9.25) provides a first view of Kika Markham as Frances Stevenson, the mistress who eventually becomes the Welsh Wizard's second wife. The political content of this episode includes Lloyd George's battle over the introduction of social security through a National Insurance Bill. . .

●Part five of the Muggeridge saga (BBC 2, 8.05) shows how one incident, the journalist's resignation as Rector of Edinburgh University because of the students' campaign for free birth control facilities, helped the atoms of his Christian faith to form a nucleus. This is also the chapter in his life when he was sacked by the BBC for an article he wrote on the British monarchy, and when Jack Gold made his fun-poking film about Mr Muggeridge's lecture tour of America.

●The BBC's brilliantly organized Bartok centenary week continues with a Royal Festival Hall concert (Radio 3, 8.00) and the String Quartet No 3 (BBC 2, 11.15 pm). The concert, by the BBC SO and chorus, is made up of the Cantata profana, ballet music for The Wooden Prince, and the Five Songs. . . . The Song is Ended (Radio 4, 7.20) tells the story of Layton and Johnstone, the close-harmony black Americans whose all-conquering partnership ended in a scandalous divorce action. . . . With the list of outraged victims lengthening daily, there is every reason why the Tuesday Call phone-in about second-hand car buyers should be repeated (Radio 4, 7.45)

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Is it as easy as ABC?; 7.05 Earth materials (3); 7.30 Disaster simulation (1). Closedown at 7.55.

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Technical studies (modern industry); 9.35 Solving the energy problem?; 9.58 Let's Go and Do Some Gardening; 10.12 Trog and the Dog; 10.30 Japan; 11.02 Science All Around.

11.25 You and Me: Lines and Circles. With Vicki Luke.

11.40 For Schools, Colleges: Religious and Moral Education (the Bible); 12.05 Kontakte.

12.45 News; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The live lunchtime show; 1.45 Trumpton: Pigeons.

2.01 For Schools, Colleges: An Asian wedding; 2.18 Near and Far: Using the elements; 2.40 Read on! A matter of opinion.

3.00 Speak for Yourself: What to say if you are arrested. Last programme in this English language series (r).

3.55 Play School: The traditional story The Pedlar and his Caps. Also on BBC 2, 11.00.

4.20 Winsome Witch: cartoon. Operation Broom Switch; 4.25 Jackanory: John Grant reads Littlenose the Dancer.

4.40 Take Hart: Entertaining art lesson from Tony Hart, featuring the work of tapestry and mosaic specialists; 5.00 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreel.

5.05 The Bagthorpe Saga: Part one of this funny children's serial, based on Helen Cresswell's books about an odd family. The birthday party that ends in flames (see Personal Choice); 5.35 Fred Basset: Wind Whistle.

5.40 News: with Peter Woods; 5.55 Regional news magazines. At 6.20 Nationwide has the result of the Glamorous Grandmothers contest, with 20 finalists on parade.

7.00 Triangle: Episode 24. Two more to go. Drama series about the goings-on on board a passenger ferry. With Michael Craig.

7.25 Film: The Defector (1966). Espionage thriller with Montgomery Clift (his last screen role) as a physicist sent on a secret service mission behind the Iron Curtain. With Hardy Kruger. Director: Raoul Levy.

9.00 News: with Jan Leeming.

9.25 The New Lords of the Isles: Film about the island communities of Skye whose landlords have changed during the past decade. The reporter is Christopher Brasher.

10.15 Sportsnight: Highlights of the England versus Spain match at Wembley. Also a look ahead to the Gillette London Marathon which has attracted an entry of 7,500 runners. Brendan Foster recalls epic moments from previous marathons.

11.18 News headlines.

11.20 George Burns in Nashville? Fun and music from the Grand Ole Opry, home of country and western music in Nashville, Tennessee. With the veteran comedian are Loretta Lynn (her story is told in the new film The Coal Miner's Daughter) and Larry Gatlin, of the Gatlin Brothers. Ends at 12.10.

12.10 Weather forecast.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 10.30-10.50 am Ysgolion. 11.2-11.22 Ysgolion. 1.45-2.1 pm Mister Men. 2.18-2.38 Ysgolion. 3.25-3.55 Snooker. 5.5-5.35 Break in the Sun. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.0-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.0 The Centenary Rugby Quiz. 8.0-8.25 Triangle. 8.25-9.0 Cliff in London. 12.10 am News. Scotland: 12.40-12.45 pm The Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-11.18 Sportscene from Scotland. 12.10 am News. Northern Ireland: 3.53-3.55 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 12.10 am News. England: 5.55-6.20 pm Regional Magazines. 12.15 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Mining; 7.05 Baroque stringed instruments; 7.30 Electrolysis and oxidation. Closedown at 7.55.

10.20 Gharbar: The magazine of special interest to Asian women. Closedown at 10.45.

11.00 Play School, Same as BBC 1, 3.55 (The Pedlar and his Caps). Closedown at 11.25.

4.50 Open University: Religion in a Hindu village (1); 5.40 The photograph is missing; 6.05 The nature of digital computing; 6.30 Interpreting a dream.

6.55 The Master Game: Last-but-one of the games in the BBC 2 international chess tournament. Tony Miles, of Great Britain, leader in Group B, plays Lothar Schmid, of West Germany. Whoever wins will meet the surprise finalist, Nigel Short. At stake, the trophy and a prize of £2,500. An analysis of the game is provided by William Hartston, and the presenter is Jeremy James.

7.25 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.35 Open Door: The work of the Suffolk Fire Service. Sarah Gascoine, from Stowmarket, regularly goes with her family to take refreshments to the fire men as they carry out their duties. Made with the help of the BBC's Community Programme Unit.

8.05 Muggeridge: Ancient and Modern. Fifth in this series of eight films in which extracts from Malcolm Muggeridge's TV appearances are dovetailed into an interview with the journalist and sage. Tonight: the years 1957 to 1967. (see Personal Choice).

9.00 M*A*S*H: Comedy about an American medical unit serving in Korea. A serious tale tonight — that of a young wounded soldier who has to be operated on. With Alan Alda as Hawkeye.

9.25 The Life and Times of David Lloyd George: Part 4 of Elaine Morgan's dramatization of scenes from the personal and professional life of the great Welsh politician (played by Philip Madoc). Tonight: the battle over the Budget Bill. *Lisabeth* Miles plays the Welsh wizard's wife and Lockwood West is seen as King Edward VII. (see Personal Choice).

10.30 Newsnight: Bulletins and news features. Linda Alexander reads the news and David Icke is the sports reporter.

11.15 Bartok Centenary: The Lindsay String Quartet play the String Quartet No 3, written in 1927, when the composer was 46. The performance is introduced by Yehudi Menuhin. Tomorrow night: the Tokyo String Quartet play the quartet No 4. Ends at 11.40.

THAMES

9.30 For Schools Holland (2); 9.50 My World: shapes that fit together; 10.10 A Victorian doctor's family; 10.35 About Books: faraway places; 11.05 Stop, Look, Listen: Visit to a pottery factory; 11.17 Finding Out: A trip to Cologne, Germany; 11.34 The achievements of the Plain English campaign.

12.00 The Munch Bunch: new series begins. A story about fruit and veg that can talk and walk. The tale of A Walnut on the Moon? 12.10 Rainbow: Includes a story about Tat and cat, told by Geoffrey Hayes.

12.30 About Britain: Keswick Convention. Spiritually, the thousands who flock to the Lake District for several days of Christian fellowship, gain a great deal. And so economically, do the locals.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Crown Court: The jury decides in the case of the police constable (Paul Seed) accused of wounding a man at a British Freedom Front protest march.

2.00 After Noon Plus: The different ways in which alcoholism can be treated.

2.45 Project U.F.O. American series about strange things in the sky. Today: the gypsy's warning about two pieces of pure magnesium.

3.45 Food, Wine and Friends: Robert Carrier shows Kaspar, the dress designer, how to cook turbot. Also, a visit to a herb garden, and some wine tasting.

4.15 Watch It! A story about Dr Snuggles, the inventor; 4.20 Runaround: Quiz game, with Mike Reid. Last in the series; 4.45 Brendon Chase: Final episode in this serial about brothers who take to the forest.

5.15 Mr and Mrs: matrimonial quiz game. With Derek Batey. Couples from Wales, Scotland and Ireland compete.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames news; 6.25 Help! Release, the drugs and legal advisory agency, has produced a pamphlet about glue sniffing and its dangerous effects.

6.35 Crossroads: Motel serial. A peace-making effort by David Hunter.

7.00 This is Your Life: Eamonn Andrews with another eulogistic half-hour.

7.30 Coronation Street: Ken Barlow takes his new girl-friend Sonia to a party where his old flame, Deirdre, is playing hostess. And Annie Walker extends an invitation to dine to Fred Gee's lady friend Eunice.

8.00 The Benny Hill Show: The comedian goes to a Greek taverna, visits a television news studio and recreates the American dream by dramatizing a best-seller.

9.00 Once in a Lifetime: If the Sharks Don't Get Me. . . . Film about Judith Chisholm, the air pilot whose ambition is to beat Jean Batten's record by flying solo to Australia. The main thing worrying her is the sharks of the Timor Sea (See Personal Choice)

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Film: The Caine Mutiny (1954) Hollywood version of Herman Wouk's best-selling book about the neurotic Captain Queeg (Humphrey Bogart) who drives the crew of his destroyer-minesweeper to rise up in mutiny. Powerful as a novel, somewhat less so as a film, but it has a strong cast (Jose Ferrer, Van Johnson, Fred MacMurray) and Edward Dymtryk's direction rarely falters.

12.45 Close: Sir Geoffrey Jackson reads a travel piece by Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News.
6.10 Farming.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Mid-Week: Russell Harty's People.
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Frank Muir Goes into . . .†
1.00 News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Flash, Bang, Wallop, by Gwen Cherrell.
3.50 Zoo Talk.
4.00 Choral Evensong from Salisbury Cathedral.†
4.45 Story Time: The Householder (8).
5.00 PM.
6.00 News.
6.30 My Music.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 The Song is Ended: Biography of Layton and Johnstone (see Personal Choice).
7.45 Phone-in: (see Personal Choice).
8.45 File on 4.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 News.
10.30 The Lord of the Rings, The Black Riders (3).†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: Anna of the Five Towns (8).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Weather.

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Advanced Studies — English: Radio Thin King (9); Le France aujourd'hui (9); Poetry Corner; Music Makers; Something to Think About.
10.30 Listen with Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: The Music Box; By the People, For the People; Casebook '81; Quest.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Movement and Drama 1; Books, Plays, Poems; Nature.
11.00 Study on 4: Digamel
11.30-12.10 am Open University: The Trial of Christ; Namier.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Prokofiev, Brahms, Spohr, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven.†
8.00-8.05 News.
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Bartok.†
10.00 Organ Recital: Scheidt, Bohm, Scheidemann, Sweelinck, J. C. Bach, W. F. Bach, J. S. Bach.†
10.45 Light Music: Richard Rodney Bennett, Gilbert Vinter, Arensky, Frankel, Patric Standford.†
11.45 Concert: Mozart, Nielsen.†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 String quartets: Mozart, Schumann.†
2.00 Music Weekly.†
2.50 Choral recital: Lassus, Bruckner, Cornyshe, Duruflé, Verdi, Whyte.†
3.25 John Antoniadis (piano): Beethoven, Rachmaninov, Liszt.†
4.00 Wordsworth: The Prelude, reading.
4.25 Recital: Mozart and the violin.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 String quintet: Mozart.†
7.30 Scientifically speaking.
8.00 Bartok Centenary Concert, live from Festival Hall (See Personal Choice).†
8.40 Six Continents.
9.00 Bartok concert, part 2.†
10.10 A Bright Future — Or None?. Leonard Schapiro on Zinoviev's "The Radiant Future".
10.30 Chopin.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 The Radiant Future, second reading.

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Power and State Behaviour; The Sun-centred World; Social Psychology — Experiments.
11.15 pm-12.35 am Open University: The Roots of Change; Magnetic Circuits; 11.55 Poetry of World War I; Curriculum Design and Development.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 Steve Jones.† 8.00 Soccer: England v Spain. 9.30 The Songwriters.† 10.00 Wit's End. 10.30 Harry Worth. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio 1 Mailbag. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00-12.00 John Peel.†

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 8.00 pm Listen to the Band.† 8.30 Alan Dell.† 9.00 The Song Writers.† 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Peebles' Choice. 8.30 Brain of Britain 1981. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Play it My Way. 10.15 Divertimento. 10.30 The Study of Man. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 'Tis my Delight. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Little Dorrit. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 The King's Collection. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Emlyn. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Listening Post. 5.30 Take One. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 International Soccer Special. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 A House for Mr Biswas. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 Famous Opera Houses. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Words Made Flesh. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 John Peel. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Certain Women. 5.15 Traveller's Tales. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Toye's Talk Back. 6.30-7.00 Report. 10.30 Scotsport World Cup Special. 11.25 Musical Special: Oscar Peterson. 12.25 am-12.30 Late Call.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Lifeline. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 10.30-12.20 am Film: Rachel, Rachel (Joanne Woodward).

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 Fantasy Island. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 Sportscast Special. 11.05 Barney Miller. 11.35-11.45 Bedtime.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 10.30 Barella. 11.30-11.33 News.

Anglia

As Thames except: Starts 9.15 am-9.30 Jobline. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Story Hour. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 10.30 Film: Enforcer" (Humphrey Bogart). 12.10 am Big Question.

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Henry Mancini in concert. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today. 10.30 Palace reborn. 11.30 News. 11.35-12.35 am SWAT.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Fantasy Island. 3.15-3.45 Life begins at Forty. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.35-7.00 Scene Midweek. 10.35 Patrick International Squash Tournament. 11.30 That's Hollywood. 12.00 Weather followed by Davidson File.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.30-3.45 Family. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back, Kotter. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 10.30 SWAT. 11.25-12.30 am Rock Stage.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where the Jobs are. 2.45-3.45 Danger UXB. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Quincy. 11.30 Camera. 12.00-12.05 am Blokes, Battles and Beliefs.

Westward

As Thames except: 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Star Parade: Mireille Mathieu. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 10.32 News. 10.38 Film: Collision Course (Henry Fonda). 12.25 am-12.30 Faith for Life.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Key West (Stephen Boyd). 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.28 News. 10.35-12.15 am Film: Die Screaming Marianna (Susan George).
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Flalabalam. 4.15-4.20 Cinderella. 4.45-5.15 Stræon Y Byd. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Star Parade: Mireille Mathieu. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-6.35 News. 10.28 News. 10.35-12.25 am Film: Collision Course (Henry Fonda).

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 Batman. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 10.30 Scotsport World Cup Special. 11.30 Musical Special: Benny Goodman. 12.25am-12.30 News.

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

CC Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258. Until April 4.
LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET
Evgs. 7.30. Mat Sat Mar 28 at 2.30. April 4 at 4.00. Last Perf: COPPELIA Ton't: Hill, Johnson, Hayworth. From Tomor: GISELLE.

COLLEGIATE THEATRE, 15 Gordon Street, WC1. Wed. 25, Fri. 27, Sat. 28 at 7.30 pm GLI ORAZI E I CURIAZI by Cimarosa Opera Rara with the Haydn Orchestra. Conductor: David Parry. Tickets: £8, £6.00, £5 only, from Camden Box Office (388 7727).

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 'S' (Gardencharge cc 836 6903). 65 amphiseats avail for all perfs from 10.00 am on the day of perf.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Ton't & Tomor at 7.30 Manon Sat at 7.30 Daphnis & Chloe, My Brother, My Sisters, Facade
THE ROYAL OPERA
Fri & Tues at 7.30. Macbeth Mon at 8.00 Covent Garden Celebrity Concert: Carlo Bergonzi.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1. Tel: 01-837 1672 1673 3856. Credit Cards 10am to 6pm. 01-278 0871.
Until Sat. SINGERS COMPANY presents Offenbach Operettas. Evs 7.30. Tonight Tomor & Sat. Orpheus in the Underworld. Fri La Perichole. Tkts £1 to £5. March 31 to April 11. SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET.

CONCERTS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191). Tonight 8 LPO Sir Georg Solti, London Philharmonic Choir, Soloists, Mozart: Violin Concerto in G, K216 (Anne-Sophie Mutter), Mass in C min. K427.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191). Tonight 8, BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Gennadi Rozhdestvensky BBC Singers BBC Symphony Chorus. Soloists. Bartok Centenary Concert. Cantata profana. Ballet, The Wooden Prince; 5 Songs (orch. Kodaly).

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611 Evgs at 7.30. Sats. 4.0 & 7.45 Mats. Thursday at 3.0
TONY BRITTON
JILL MARTIN, PETER BAYLISS in
MY FAIR LADY
"A MARVELLOUS SHOW"—Now! "SPECTACULAR"—D. Express. "STUNNING"—Time Out.
Anna Neagle returns from holiday on March 31.
Now booking through to Oct. For Group Bookings Telephone 01-836 7358 or 01-379 6061

ALBERY—OMEGA SHOW GUIDE
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY
DUET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY
CREDIT CARD SALES 379 6565 from 9 a.m. all major cards. No fee. GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. STUDENT STANDBY £2.00.

ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp bkgs 379 6061. 836 3962. Eves 8, Thurs mat 3.00 Sat 5 & 8.15. "SIAN PHILLIPS 'A KNOCKOUT'" S. Times. DENIS LAWSON Most promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980
MARVELLOUS MUSICAL
Sunday Times.
PAL JOEY
"TO BE SEEN AT ALL COSTS" (F.T.). RODGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail).
GLITTERINGLY SLEAZY, SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE Std.

AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171 Eves 8. Tue 3. Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S
Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
"One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.

APOLLO. CC 01-437 2663
DIANE LANGTON. BEN CROSS
I'M GETTING MY ACT TOGETHER AND TAKING IT ON THE ROAD
OPENING MARCH 31 at 7.0
Red. price prevs. March 26, 27 at 8.15. 28th at 6.0 & 8.45. 30th at 8.45

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
Today 2.00 & 7.30. Tomor 7.30.
PASSION PLAY
by Peter Nichols
'Sheer magic' F. Times. 'Superlative acting' S. Tel. 'The laughter came thick and fast . . . an exciting start to the theatrical year' S. Times. With: Eileen Atkins, Louise Jameson, Priscilla Morgan, Anton Rodgers, Billie Whitelaw and Benjamin Whitrow. Perf. runs approx 2¾ hours. Prestel booking 22023. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse/Piccadilly.

ARTS 836 2132 Mons to Sats 8 p.m. £4, £3, £2. "Even if you're not at fall with G & S you'll soon be lapping up
TWISTED CUES
"I must recommend this good wholesome entertainment" Capital Radio. "A comic tour de force" D. Tel. "Show bursting with health & strength" The Times. "Whole thing is good fun" F.T. Season must end April 11.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium —low price tkts): Closed this week for maintenance. Previews from Thurs 2 April at 7.30 DON JUAN by Moliere trans. by John Fowles.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Limited season until 23 May only. Evenings 7.15. Mat. Thurs. 2.00 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of
ARTHUR MILLER'S
THE CRUCIBLE
Directed by Bill Bryden
"Thrilling production of a magnificent play" F. Times.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Evgs 8, Sat. 6 & 8.45.
Martin Connor, David Delve Peter Reeves
deliver the songs and words of
TOM LEHRER
with huge polish and glee in
TOMFOOLERY
a satiric musical revue
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"OUTRAGEOUS", Guardian.

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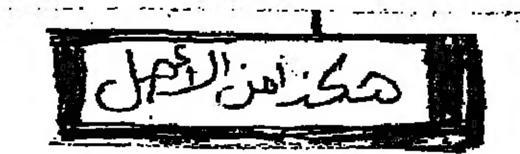
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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 24

THE LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. 1 Samuel 2: 7.

BIRTHS

BIRCH.—[illegible]
BOSTOCK.—[illegible]
COOPER.—[illegible]
COPLESTONE.—[illegible]
EDWARDS.—[illegible]
FOSTER-BROWN.—[illegible]
GARNER.—[illegible]
GOULD.—[illegible]
GREENE.—[illegible]
HANKEY.—[illegible]
HAVERS.—[illegible]
HYDE.—[illegible]
KIRKPATRICK.—[illegible]
LANIGAN-O'KEEFFE.—[illegible]
PARSON.—[illegible]
RALSTON.—[illegible]
SHIRLAW.—[illegible]
ST. AUBYN.—[illegible]
SWALLOW.—[illegible]
TAPISSIER.—[illegible]

DEATHS

BAYLY.—[illegible]
CALTHROP.—[illegible]
CAMERON.—[illegible]
CAREW.—[illegible]
FERGUSON.—[illegible] ... Mildred's Church, Whippingham on Friday, March 27th, at 3 pm followed by cremation. Flowers to Silchester.
FIELDING.—On 23rd March, 1981, bravely, at Wyld Hall, Longburton, Felicity Ann, beloved wife of Richard and devoted mother of Vanessa, Timothy, Anabel and Lucy. Funeral 12 noon, Friday, 27th March, at Longburton Parish Church, Sherborne.
FORD.—On March 22nd 1981, suddenly Sir Leslie Ewart aged 83, beloved husband of Mary. Cremation private. Memorial service later. No flowers please, donations to Cancer Research.

BIRTHDAYS

DOONA.—Happy birthday, come on I want my breakfast. Love Gypsy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
NARNEY ROBY
" Roses are red
Violets are blue
While I'm alive
I'll always love you."
ERIC

DEATHS

FITCH.—[illegible]
GOLDSMITH.—[illegible]
KERRIDGE.—[illegible]
MACDONALD.—[illegible]
NEVILLE.—[illegible]
NEWALL.—[illegible]
NOLAN.—[illegible]
OSLER.—[illegible]
POLLEN.—[illegible]
QUILTER.—[illegible]
RICHARDS.—[illegible] ... in his 77th year, Walter (Wally) Frederic Richards, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., late of Harlow, Essex. Funeral service 10.30 a.m. Friday, 27th March, at Arnos Vale Crematorium, Bristol. Inquiries to Cooperative Funeral Services, 99 Church Rd., Redfield, Bristol. Tel.: 0272 555155. No flowers by request.
ROBERTS.—On March 21st, tragically as a result of a road accident, Leonard Moore, late of Bradford on Avon, will be sadly missed by family and friends.
SEEBOHM.—On March 23, Derrick, of Hale Cottage, Winscombe, Avon, after a short illness. Funeral private. Donations to Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation, Fyne Court, Broomfield, Bridgwater.
SILVERSTON.—On Saturday, March 21st, 1981, suddenly at Marlow, Leonard (Curly), beloved husband of Astrid. Funeral service at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, on Friday, March 27th, at 1 p.m. Flowers to Heritage and Sons, 109 Oxford Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.
SMITH.—On March 21st, 1981, George Henry, M.A., of Bedale's School. Funeral on Friday, 27th March, 1981, at Avalanche Church, Southwell, Portland, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations to the Ockenden Venture, c/o Dashwood and Denver, 63 St. James Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.
STODDART.—On March 20th at Shipley, Janet Mary (Janet) (nee Macintyre), aged 73. Funeral Thursday, March 26th, at 3.00 p.m., Aldershot Crematorium. No flowers (donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation).
XAVERINE: ROPER-KELLAND.—Sister Mary, on March 22nd, peacefully, in Finchley, aged 87, of The Manor House Convent, Finchley, London N.3 (Sisters of Marie Auxiliatrice). Requiem Mass and funeral on Monday, March 30th, at St. Philip's Church, Gravel Hill, Finchley, London, N.3, at 12.30.

DEATHS

SMITH.—On March 20th, 1981, after a short illness, Rosalie Christine, aged 82 years, of Scrutton Close, Headington, Oxford, greatly loved by family and friends. Funeral service at Oxford Crematorium on Friday, 27th March, at 3.30 p.m. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Family flowers only, please, but, if desired, donations may be sent to the Abbeyfield Foundation.
WALSH.—On March 22nd, 1981, peacefully after a long illness, Robert Frederick, aged 65, beloved husband of Di, dear father of David and Penny and a much loved grandpa. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield, on Friday, 27th March, at 12.30 p.m. Family flowers only, but donations welcomed to St. Catherine's Hospice, care of Newstead, Courtmead Road, Cuckfield RH17 5LP.
WILLIAMS, PETER.—Suddenly on March 19th, 1981. See Funerals column.
WRIGHT, MARION.—On Friday, 13th March, at Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, Wash., U.S.A., aged 83, sister of John and Charles Wright and widow of Herman Lutz.
WRIGHT.—On March 22nd, peacefully, at Nunnery Fields Hospital, Canterbury, Bernard Wright, widower of Hilda Mary Wright and father of Joan, Peter and Brenda and their children and grandchildren. Funeral at Jordans Meeting House, Beaconsfield, Monday, March 30th, 12 noon.

FUNERALS

WILLIAMS, PETER.—Funeral service at City of Norwich (Earlham) Crematorium on Thursday, March 26th, at 1.30 p.m. Flowers to Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 85 Unthank Road, Norwich.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

MAUGHAM.—A memorial service for Viscount Robin Maugham will be held in St. Paul's Church, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2, on Thursday, 2nd April, 1981, at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM

CHARLTON.—In memory of 2nd Lieut. William Charlton, East Lancashire Regt., killed near Peronne on 25th March, 1918, in his nineteenth year, and to the honour of the Fifth Army.

TURFFREY.—Sidney Charles, June 28, 1968. Remembering always, and especially today, his birthday, our beloved Brother. WITH GOD. AT PEACE.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BRUNDRETT.—Mrs Dorothy M. Tait would like to thank the relatives and many friends of her sister Lady Enid Brundrett for their loving messages and beautiful floral tributes. She hopes that this will be accepted in grateful acknowledgment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IVC, London's largest, longest established, non-commercial leisure organisation for young (20-35) professional people offers its 4,500 members about 500 events a month. For details ring 240 2525 or write to Tricia Fraser (T), 3-5, The Piazza, WC2E 8HF.
SECRETARY-PLUS for Property Co in Chelsea—See la Creme.
SWEDISH design consultancy need admin sec.—See la Creme.
NEGOTIATOR for Pimlico Estate Agents—see Non-Secretarial.
SONGWRITER seeks entrepreneurial management/philanthropic patronage.—01-286 8865.
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REMEMBER A DEPARTED FRIEND. With a tribute that blooms in lasting happiness for old people. There is no more fitting memorial to a loved name than to link your regard with enduring work for the lonely or frail. Every £ you give towards a Day Centre or medical assistance among elderly people in great need achieves a great deal, thanks to volunteers all over Britain. Please send your gift with the name you wish to commemorate to: The Hon Treasurer, The Rt Hon Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room TINM, 32 Dover Street, London W1A 2AR.
BETHNAL GREEN character estate. House for under £25,000—see Props.
SECRETARY for London-based design consultancy—see Creme de la Creme.
THE GARDEN SCHOOL for Amateurs: See Sport & Rec.
KINDLY PHILANTHROPIST urgently needed to sponsor two bright children through school. Box 3000 F, The Times.
CONRAN ROCHE requires Assistant to M.D. See La Creme.
ST. HUGH'S SCHOOL Farringdon, (formerly at Bickley) sends 75th anniversary greetings to all former pupils. Re-unions May 17th (Bickley), July 4/5th (Carswell).
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20 PER CENT discount on your new handmade Sofa.—See JBD, For Sale column.
SOPRENDO predicts the card will be the 7 of Clubs.

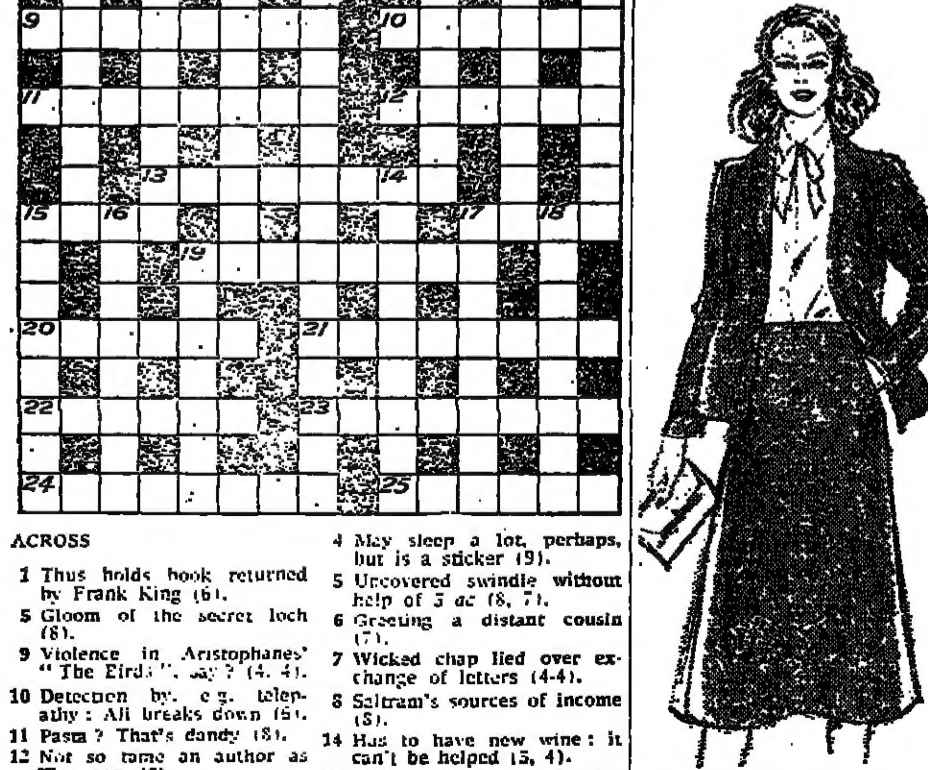
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responded in 1980 to around 26,000 requests for help and advice from people suffering from:

ASTHMA, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, EMPHYSEMA, ANGINA, CORONARY THROMBOSIS and STROKE

as compared with 12,000 in 1977. It also expanded considerably its work in STROKE RESEARCH and REHABILITATION.
Please help us to help even more by Donation, "In Memoriam" gift or Legacy.
The Chest, Heart and Stroke Association (T), Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JE.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,483



ACROSS

1 Thus holds book returned by Frank King (6).
5 Gloom of the secret loch (8).
9 Violence in Aristophanes' "The Birds", say? (4, 4).
10 Detection by, e.g. telepathy: Ali breaks down (6).
11 Pasta? That's dandy (8).
12 Not so tame an author as Thornton (6).
13 Extending circle to include everybody (8).
15 Piper from Scottish kingdom (4).
17 Eastern garment returned by Charmian's colleague (4).
19 One of the chambers is without equal (8).
20 Being shelled, mine is sticking to the ship (6).
21 Church built of barium and quartz (3).
22 Exit from market (6).
23 Late last month, worker was transported (8).
24 General know-how gets a try converted (3).
25 Bound to include Latin, it is ordered (6).

DOWN

2 Italian poet's cat with one tail (8).
3 French writer shows force of current on river (8).
4 May sleep a lot, perhaps, but is a sticker (9).
5 Uncovered swindle without help of 5 or 18 (7).
6 Greeting a distant cousin (7).
7 Wicked chap lied over exchange of letters (4-4).
8 Saltram's sources of income (5).
14 Has to have new wine: it can't be helped (5, 4).
15 This ball lacks bounce (4, 4).
16 Gable, e.g. made in layers with pitch basis (4, 4).
17 Italian island—Edward quarantined here (8).
18 In Spain I can't drink outside (3).
19 Monitor the French official (7).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,482

GEMINI PLEIADES
ETHICAL TREFOIL
TETRAMETER BOAR
ENAMOUR IDIOTIC
RECEIPT GRIFFIN
STUS CASPIAN SEA
NASCENT NOISIER
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ERIC HILL

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9 GROSVENOR CRESCENT, LONDON SW1X 7EJ.

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IQ test/membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 26055.
ORIGINAL OIL PAINTINGS by Keith English/Majorana. See For Sales.
IF Mr Kenneth Kidson, late of Oaklands Close, Petts Wood, will ring 01-733 0112 (after 6 pm) he will hear something to his advantage.
TAKE your phone fishing? Phonemate will tell you how. 01-431 0266/0257.
EXAMINATION NERVES? Do justice to your ability. See Services.
SICKERT.—The Arts Council is seeking information on the whereabouts of paintings by Sickert dating from 1927 or after for an exhibition at The Hayward Gallery in London next November.—Write to Andrew Dempsey, Arts Council, 105 Piccadilly, London, W.1.
A PALESTINE STATE?—Yes, in Jordan which is 76.9% of Palestine and has majority population of Palestinian Arabs. Jordan is Palestine, 30 Baker St., London, W.1.
INTENSIVE O & A LEVEL revision at Easter. See Educational.
BALLOONS delivered for all occasions.—See Services.
MARIE CURIE.—A living tribute. Please support generously by donation, "In Memoriam" gift, interest free loan or bequest, the humanitarian cancer nursing, welfare and research of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, now in its 33rd year of service to those in need.—124 Sloane Street, London, SW1X 9BP.

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